Bureau File

100-51230

Sub A

Section 2

99 pages

SOAPBOX
In Washington

[The Congressman's New York Office 132 W 138 st, is open on Mondays and Fridays from 10 am to 1 pm and on Thursdays from 8 to 10 pm. No advance appointment is required]

THE CENSURING of a white soldier by an army officer because he dared to enter a theatre on an army post, even though he was in keeping with War Department regulations, is probably not a headline story, for incidents in which white servicemen have risked their necks to break down segregation in army ranks were not uncommon during the war just ended.

The main point at issue in this story is that our country should be pretty well ashamed of its laxity in enforcing its own edicts where minority groups are concerned. Presidential executive orders and government directives are, in these cases, fast becoming looked upon as mere scraps of paper.

What respect can a nation expect and demand from other nations when it makes no serious effort to enforce its own laws and announced policies?

We are growing very tired and weary of stated policies of our government departments which are at variance with its practices. Instances of this nefarious government practice can be cited ten-fold day after day.

The War Department says: "Do not discriminate against servicemen because of their race or creed. This is our policy. Yet its top ranking officials wink at violations of this policy every moment of every day.

The Navy announces: "We do not have a segregated policy." Yet, naval officers refuse to bring home Negro servicemen on one of its ships. We said "ONE." There were probably many such incidents as the one reported recently from Le Havre, France.

Our Civil Service Commission says that its policy is one of non-discrimination. Yet it knows that Negroes are being denied employment in government departments every day. The President, only last week, was reminded of this fact by one of his department heads. Yet, what will be done about it? What has been done outside of his issuance

Adam Clayton Powell

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87 JAN 29 1946

Jill Powell

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of another scrap of paper asking government department heads to examine their policies again?

Mr. Truman knows that these policies have been examined again and again. But, what is he and our legislators and our executive officers going to do about them?

Our own Constitution says that a citizen cannot be deprived of his right to a fair trial and of his right to vote. Our Declaration of Independence says: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, etc."

Yet, as far as Negroes are concerned, the documents founding our country and establishing its laws are also scraps of paper. They must go to the courts of the land in an effort to get the protection that the laws guarantee them, and frequently they lose their fights.

All this talk about racial equality being brought about by the slow process of education is all the bunk, and we believe that we are no wiser than our nation's leaders. They realize it too.

It seems ludicrous to reasonable people that the United States can enforce its laws which do not pertain to racial equality, and yet hide behind "education" and "human nature" whenever racial laws are concerned. Why is this? This question we ask again and again with heavy hearts. To this question we must demand an answer.

We can answer it partially ourselves. The reason such laws and policies cannot be enforced is because Americans know that the government has no intention of enforcing them. They know that the government does not mean business about them.

There are so many cases that point to the possibility of enforcement when the government is determined to do so that we cannot point them out here. Take the freedom of the slaves as the most outstanding case. A war had to be fought on the issue, but the slaves were freed.

In the Philadelphia transit strike against the employment of Negroes as platform men, the government meant business, and the street cars were made to run—with Negroes in these positions. Long ago, Abe Lincoln said that a country divided against itself cannot stand. We may not live to see the day, but if America does not enforce democracy, America as a democracy and as a world power will not stand.

LENIN MEMORIAL MEETING

ONE OF THE FEATURED SPEAKERS at the Lenin Memorial meeting in Madison Square Garden, Tuesday, January 15, will be Harry Winston, veteran of the United States Army who saw three and a half years service in France and England. Winston, secretary of the Negro Commission of the Communist Party and a member of the national committee, has been active in the struggles for Negro rights for nearly 15 years and is one of the pioneer founders of the National Negro Congress. Main speakers include Eugene Dennis, member of the Secretariat of the party, and Bob Thompson, veteran and holder of the Distinguished Service Cross and State Chairman of the party. Tickets may be secured at the Workers Bookshop, 50 E 13 st, and Bookfair, 133 W 44 st.

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FILE

LENIN MEMORIAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1946

Madison Square Garden

SPEAKERS:

HENRY WINSTON, Secretary, Negro Commission, CPUSA
EUGENE DENNIS, Member, National Secretariat, CPUSA
BOB THOMPSON, Chairman, New York State C.P.

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION:

"REPORT ON 152nd DAY"

Tickets: 50c—30c—$1.00—$1.50—$2.00
At Workers Bookshop, 50 East 13th Street
and Book Fair, 133 West 44th Street

AUSPICES: COMMUNIST PARTY, N. Y. STATE

Greet the Returned Communist Veterans

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59 FEB 7 1946

SOAPBOX
In Washington

[The Congressman's New York Office 132 W 138 st, is open on Mondays and Fridays from 10 am to 1 pm and on Thursdays from 8 to 10 pm. No advance appointment is required].

WHILE WE REJOICE in and are appreciative of President Truman's nomination of William H. Hastie to the governorship of the Virgin Islands, we have mainly ourselves and Mr. Hastie to thank. We thank ourselves because we know this appointment comes largely as a result of our continued pressure on the President to recognize us as a force and factor in this country's progress. We thank Judge Hastie for being fully qualified for the job, and for the courage and independence that he has shown in his previous positions of public trust.

Mr. Hastie was appointed Federal Judge in the Virgin Islands by President Roosevelt, the first Negro to hold a Federal judgeship, and he carried out his work with honor and dignity. He was later appointed civilian aide to the Secretary of War with the announced policy of guarding the interests of Negroes in the Army. He did his best to fight against discrimination and segregation in the armed forces. When he decided that his advice and protestations were not being heeded by the Administration, he quit the job in order to focus attention on the raw deal that he felt Negroes were being given in the air forces.

Mr. Hastie's nomination as governor of the Virgin Islands proves that a Negro need not be a handkerchief-head to get ahead in this

Adam Clayton Powell

Jesse Powell

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country, even in government circles. It also points to the value of our having politically independent persons to represent us in public life.

We must not accept this nomination by the Administration as a token which will appease us. Pressure must continue on Mr. Truman and the Congress for not only more appointments like Judge Mollison's and Judge Hastie's but for broadening the welfare of the masses of Negroes, minority groups, and the working class people as a whole.

If the Democrats want to stop Dewey in 1948 they cannot afford to stop at a few token appointments of Negroes. They know exactly what we want and what we need—and what this country needs if it is to continue the progress it made under President Roosevelt. They must pass legislation for a permanent FEPC; they must keep price controls; they must find a way to keep employment at a maximum; they must find decent homes for working people at reasonable cost; they must initiate beneficial health programs for working people; they must see to it that all racial groups are given an opportunity for education; they must take the leadership in seeing to it that the colonial peoples of the world have the democracy and independence for which their boys gave their last measure of devotion.

We hail President Truman's nomination of Judge Hastie as governor of the Virgin Islands, and we hope it is immediately confirmed by the Senate. **We want the President to know, however, that he has just BEGUN to discharge his responsibilities to some 15,000,000 Negro Americans. We demand continued and even more fundamental performance.**

Powell Opposes Vet Bureau Bias

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Adam C. Powell, Jr., Democrat, of New York, has informed General Omar N. Bradley, administrator of veterans' affairs, that he is opposed to any deviation by the Veterans' Administration from the prohibition in the Federal Constitution against race or religious discrimination.

General Bradley had written Mr. Powell that in local communities where integration of colored veterans in veterans' hospitals might cause conflict, local custom was followed.

"The Federal Government is duty-bound to set the standard rather than to follow any custom which jeopardizes even one person's right to first-class citizenship," Mr. Powell stated.

"And in setting a standard which will guarantee to every American first-class citizenship, I know of no better guide than the Constitution of the United States, faithfully adhered to in every respect."

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Powell Holds FEPC Meeting

Congressman A. C. Powell, Jr., (D. NY), Editor-in-Chief of PV, this week issued a call for a "Stop the Filibuster" Mass Meeting at Harlem's Golden Gate, 142 st and Lenox av, Sunday, January 27, 3 pm.

The legislation for a permanent FEPC is now on the floor of the senate where it is being filibustered by Senators Eastland and Bilbo.

NY leaders of the recent March on Washington, January 17, which fought in DC for the FEPC, will report at this meeting. Among the speakers scheduled are Sen. James Meade, FEPC Commissioner, Elmer Carter, Councilman Ben Davis. Powell will act as chairman, and the People's Committee as sponsors.

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50 FEB 13 1946

SOAPBOX
In Washington

[*The Congressman's New York Office 132 W 125 st, is open on Mondays and Fridays from 10 am to 1 pm and on Thursdays from 8 to 10 pm. No advance appointment is required*].

TEMPORARY FEPC was the result of a threatened March on Washington. The passage of a permanent FEPC might well result from an actual march which was staged last week by 1000 people from all over the nation.

When Ben Davis and I originally conceived the idea, we little thought that with scarcely two weeks' notice the response would be so tremendous. **As Vito Marcantonio pointed out, it was the largest people's delegation ever to descend upon the Capitol.** They came from everywhere—Texas and Minnesota, seaboard and inland, cities and farms. It was without doubt true that the presence of this delegation helped influence the tremendous three to one vote in the Senate which put the FEPC on the floor for debate. The reactionary South moved against it. The filibuster is now on. **It can only be broken by us people.** Unless we can break this stranglehold that 17 Southern Senators have on democracy, we might as well give up all hope at least for the next few years. All of the past aspects of Truman's program hinge on this the first test, the passage of the FEPC.

My committee in Congress—the Labor Committee—has been the originator of the FEPC, the minimum wage law, the maintenance of the U. S. Employment Services by the federal government and the controversial fact finding law for labor disputes. **None of these items can be passed until the hurdle of a permanent FEPC has been overcome.**

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

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Our two New York Senators, Mead and Wagner, must take a more positive stand and throw themselves into the leadership of the fight. The present leader is Senator Chavez of New Mexico. He has done a great job. **But the burden of the fight should be carried by our Senators, who represent the largest urban concentration of Negroes, Jews and Catholics—the people who will benefit from a FEPC.**

We must also, as independent people, be wary of any move on the part of the Republicans up either in the House or in the Senate to claim any glory for the passage of the FEPC. The FEPC would have been passed long ago if the Republican members of Congress had cooperated with northern Democrats. To date they have played Bilbo's and Rankin's game. It is time for them to go forward and stand up and be counted. This is election year. We want full support from them now. But we are not going to let them claim the glory of being responsible for the passage.

One delegation, for example, of which Mrs. Anna Moore of my church was a member, waited for two and a half hours in trying to see Joe Martin, the leader of the Republican Congressmen. But they failed. All Democrats in the North except John McCormick of Boston have declared themselves in favor of a permanent FEPC by signing the Discharge Petition, while, on the other hand, nearly every Republican in the North has refused. Right here in New York State there is close to a score of Republicans, including one from our own state, who are against the permanent FEPC. These are our real enemies until they prove otherwise. **We don't expect anything from sub-moron bourbons like Rankin, but we do expect at least minimum democracy from Northern representatives, regardless of their party.**

Marching Blacks Shows Need for Racial Unity

By BEN RICHARDSON

MARCHING BLACKS by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Dial Press, New York, $2.50.

MARCHING BLACKS is a significant publication. It is Adam Powell Jr's., first book, and represents an excellent effort at writing a thorough and convincing work intended to help bring about the political, economic and religious emancipation of the Negro. The book has a thesis: Negroes are on the march toward freedom. Powell argues it well.

The first part of Marching Blacks is devoted to a rehearsal of historical facts concerning the Negro's forward movement from slavery days, through the periods of his revolt against this evil, to his ultimate developments in the post-Civil War era. Powell explains the caste disunities which retarded Negro progress in these years and warns against a recurrence of such division in our day. In this part of his work, Powell introduces no new historical material but brilliantly weaves familiar facts on a new "warp and woof" of political continuity.

The section of the book entitled "Black Reborn" is the starting point for Powell's real development of his thesis. In this section he discusses the race riots of St. Louis, Washington (D.C.), and Chicago, and concludes from these incidents that the Negro was gradually becoming conscious of his needs for unity against the abuses of unmitigated Jim Crow. The Scottsboro case is discussed later also and, according to Powell, it marked a high point in the protest movement of the Negro because it brought to his side white co-sufferers, Jew and Gentile, who held common ideals and shared his fervor for freedom.

It is in the chapter, "Unity for Victory", which deals with the Scottsboro case that Powell makes what to my mind is a basic error in evaluating the real trends of Negro political life. In this chapter he discusses Communism. Powell contends that overall, Negroes will work with Communists but will not join the party. I do not think this is altogether the case. In fact, I understand there are several thousand Negroes in the Communist party. I am confident also, that if Negro leadership in pulpits and pews would interpret Communism correctly and adequately to the people, an overwhelming number of Negroes would join the party.

And one other note on this section of the book. This portion of Marching Blacks is dated. Powell mentions that the Communist Party has formed an accord with free enterprise, dissolved as a political party and reorganized as an association, etc. Obviously, Powell wrote this during Browder's "Revisionist" era. This is not the case in the Party today. The struggle is well defined. It is the working masses versus monopolistic capitalist such as migration towards there is a genuine [illegible] striking your business and [illegible] the fields of battle. America belongs to Americans. Negroes are a part of the stuff out of which America was made. Negroes must fight together with their white brothers for their freedom on every inch of American soil. They must fight where they are! They must be free to move if they so desire, but it must not be flight.

Marching Blacks is from beginning to end a part of the credentials of a crusader. It has its place in every pathfinder's portfolio. It represents the sincere efforts of an important leader, to blueprint a way out for his people. Its virtues commend it to us as a guide and its shortcomings challenge us to improve on similar courageous statements in the future.

all, it is freedom versus slavery, life versus death.

The portions of the book dealing with the Harlem Riots are most important and are treated with great accuracy and animation. They show that Negro unity is a requisite to progress in all areas of community life. Powell's crisp phraseology and short, pointed sentences give the book a staccato overtone that propels the reader through chapter after chapter with sustained interest.

In Chapter 6, entitled "The Great Migration," Powell advances an idea which, if followed, would do great harm to the cause of progress toward a people's world. In this chapter he advocates the mass migration of Negroes from the South to the North. I can speak pointedly of this chapter because, like the rest of the book, I have discussed it many times with Powell and at one time shared his views. However, and I say this in great kindness, the suggestion that Negroes in the South come North in these days of crisis, ill housing, unemployment, labor-capital struggle, and racial tensions, is an invitation to catastrophe for millions of the oppressed. This suggestion plays into the hands of Bilbo who advocates a mass migration of Negroes from the South to Africa, per force. In addition to the holo-

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White House, Inc.

CAN IT BE THAT THE REASON President Truman is so eager to enlarge the White House is that he wants to make room for even more big business tycoons to move in and take direct charge of our government?

George Allen, whom Truman has nominated to the Board of Reconstruction Finance Corporation, is a director of 20 or 21 great corporations—in steel, aviation, radio, and many other industries. With no "official" government job or salary, he has been living in the White House, occupying office space in the State Department, and serving as one of the President's chief advisers.

And on the subject of Truman's advisers, it is equally disturbing to note that James K. Vardaman jr., son of the worst Negro-hater Mississippi ever sent to the Senate, is also a close adviser to the President and a nominee for a 14-year term on the Federal Reserve Board.

When we see where President Truman turns for advice and assistance, we can well understand why progressives throughout the country are fighting to block the nominations of Allen and Vardaman.

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Washington Outhouse Of Fascism—Powell

WASHINGTON—"America was once the outpost of democracy, but Washington today is the outhouse of fascism," declared Congressman Adam Clayton Powell in a speech before the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity at Howard University last week. "I come tonight with a sad and tragic realization that nowhere does democracy sink to a lower depth than here in the nation's capital," the Congressman said; "democracy in the District of Columbia is a farce."

He asserted that segregation, discrimination and prejudice here are more marked than in the "deepest section of the deepest South."

"In Washington," he charged, "the Negro can't vote, can't avail himself of cultural opportunities, must attend separate schools, live in a ghetto, and die in a jimcro hospital, despite the fact that the Negro in Washington is better educated and better off financially than the Negro anywhere else in America."

HOUR HAS COME

Vowing that the hour has arrived for the people of the District of Columbia to smash segregation by direct mass action, Powell said that the only success worthy of the name of success was won by the New Negro Alliance when it picketed the People's Drugstore chain and fought its case on up through the United States Supreme Court and won.

"Since then," he told his Washington audience, "you the people have been steadily deteriorating, spiraling downward. Today the District of Columbia is crowded with thousands of whites who resent the pattern because it makes a farce of the sacrifices of the efforts of white fighting men, let alone black fighting men.

"There are also people placed in government offices—high and low—who are ready to cooperate with any group of people who will protest the pattern of fascism in Washington.

"While it is true that there is no law guaranteeing civil liberties in Washington; on the other hand, there is no law guaranteeing segregation."

CHALLENGES RESIDENTS

He challenged Washingtonians to test segregation and discrimination in every public place, beginning with government buildings and on down through theatres, restaurants, etc, and declared that he would be happy to be a member of such a group.

"I challenge the Alpha Phi Alpha, representing the college men of the District of Columbia, to institute a program protesting segregation and carrying it into every court on up to the Supreme Court.

"If the Supreme Court of this nation sanctions segregation, then I ask what in the hell did we fight for and why don't we bring Adolph Hitler back from the dead—or wherever he is—and make him dictator of the United States!"

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Weekly Honors Clayton Powell

The New Republic has placed Rep. Adam Clayton Powell on its 1945 Congressional Honor Roll for meritorious service in the House of Representatives, Bruce Bliven, editor, announced yesterday.

The magazine singled out Rep. Powell's fight against discrimination and listed his voting record from Jan. 3, 1945, until the end of that year.

In the three instances where Rep. Powell was absent from the House, the New Republic noted that they were due to illness, the death of his mother and the death of his wife's mother.

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Date 3-5-46

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[Hundreds of students packing Columbia University's Riverside Theatre on Monday, in protest to the Fulton, Mo., speech of Winston Churchill, enthusiastically greeted the speech made by Congressman Marcantonio, excerpts of which are published in this week's Soapbox. Co-chairmen of the meeting, sponsored by the Columbia Committee for Permanent Peace, were Dragnolian, chairman of the Columbia chapter of the American Veterans' Committee, and Lee Haggerty, commander of the New York Collegiate Post of the American Legion.]

"WE MEET TOGETHER TODAY 100 per cent American citizens spearheaded by the Commander of the American Legion Collegiate Post and the Columbia University American Veterans' Committee Chapter to protest the vicious war-mongering of Winston Churchill. We do not protest the conferring of the degree upon him by the university because that degree was awarded in 1943 for his work as war-leader of Great Britain. We deplore, however, that in the conferring of this degree today a greater title—that of being a peacemaker—cannot be added.

"It is inconceivable that in so short a time we of this democracy and of England, who have made so many grave mistakes and are making so many today, can allow ourselves to be forced into a war with our great ally—Soviet Russia—without whom World War II would still be in the process of being fought. Not only was Churchill's speech a war-mongering speech but what was so deplorable was that this defeated ex-Prime Minister, who no longer speaks the mind of Britain, is meeting with the open approval of so many of our own leadership.

"Churchill would have us establish—in a world that has made up its mind to come together—an English-speaking dictatorship.

"We have condemned Russia for its use of power to spread its influence without consulting us while, on the other hand, with no consultation, we have tried to use our power to bring about in Argentina a government that would not threaten our interests. We have condemned Russia for helping herself to enemy properties while we have helped ourselves to enemy properties in neutral countries.

"We are against Russia's [illegible] in the Mediterranean and Manchuria, yet we are seeking bases in Iceland and Greenland which seem menacing to Russia and are also reluctant to place under trusteeship the Pacific bases which we took from Japan.

"If we feel that the Russians are trying to establish spheres of economic influence, then why do we not give generous economic aid to countries outside Russia's sphere? Why do we not reduce our tariff so that our creditors can repay our loans by selling goods to us? If we are afraid of Russia's superior competition, then why do we not open our doors wide to skilled men and women who would like nothing better than to work here in America? Why do we not pass FEPC, which would enlist the skilled labor of Negroes who were so widely utilized during the war period?

"Mr. Byrnes says that our diplomacy must not be 'negative and inert.' Let's stop talking and start [illegible]. The world has been kept in turmoil since VJ-Day by our own economic withdrawal, our political vacillation, and our moral negativism. We are against Russia because it is totalitarian even though it was our ally and ally, yet we are tolerating worse conditions in Spain which not only was our enemy but is now harboring our enemy.

"In all conquered countries the war brought to the forefront leaders of courage and of vision and loyalty to the ideals of freedom. These people should have received our sympathy and support. Instead, we cold-shouldered them and played footsie with the worn-out aristocrats of a world that is dead and will never return.

"We must not allow any lying or ignorant so-called American statesmen to plunge us into another war. I do not think the war-weary millions of American men will be willing to turn around and fight another war, especially one that can easily be prevented if we will be honest first with ourselves.

"In Congress I am preparing to lay a petition before the Representatives incorporating the aforementioned ideas. I think it is time that Congress speaks out against this most obvious attempt to break up the United Nations Organization, to establish a form of super-nationalism based on race, and to plunge the world again into war."

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SOAPBOX
In Washington

I SURE HAVE A GOOD TIME watching people's reactions to my book, **Marching Blacks.** I never posed as a writer—like some other people—and so I have been very happy about the reviews and especially the sales. My publishers have just reported that it has gone into another edition. About 80 percent of the reviews have been very good, the best reviews having appeared in such widely separated publications as the **St. Louis Times-Democrat, The Washington Post, The Chicago Sun, The New Haven Courier, The Amsterdam News** and the **Saturday Review of Literature.** Louis Gannett of the **New York Herald-Tribune** was the first reviewer, and I want to thank him for a pat on the back. I have been very surprised at the way white reviewers praised the book, and not in the least surprised at the way most of the Negro reviewers have damned it. This goes to prove what has formerly been only a sneaking suspicion—that white liberals are way ahead of so-called Negro liberals.

One part of my book kicked up a lot of fuss (which I knew it would) and that is the chapter on urging Negroes to leave the South. The Office of War Information clips all of the newspapers of America for me, sending me anything which carries my name. I therefore come across some very beautiful editorials from the Deep South press urging their **"beloved Negro citizens to kindly ignore that old radical Powell and please stay down South, where we treat you fine."** In the Raleigh, North Carolina, **News-Observer** there appeared a blistering editorial giving me hell for asking all Negroes to leave the South. I proceeded to send actual quotations from the book to Jonathan Daniels, owner of the paper, and received a prompt reply from him apologizing and printing my letter in his paper. His apology to me stated that the editorial writer of his paper had read only a review and had not read the

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A. Clayton Powell

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book. That, I am afraid, is the trouble with most of the Negro reviewers. **Even my good friend Ben Richardson slipped up there by saying that it called for "flight." If Brother Ben would read the book he would see that I called not for flight, but for planned migration.**

I think the letter I wrote to a George Washington High School senior the other day, which is quoted below, just about sizes up the controversial chapter.

"Dear Friend: My book calling for the migration of Negro people as one solution is very simple to understand.

"It only calls for people to leave those portions of the South where there has been no appreciable change for the better during the past 25 years. That's the exact reason why people leave Europe and come to America. I'm sure you would not want to ask people to stay under oppressive conditions. Take, for instance, a town like Columbia, Tennessee, where the state police have destroyed with riot guns every Negro business and arrested Negro businessmen and every Negro leader. On the other hand, take cities like Durham, North Carolina; Houston, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia—where changes are taking place and there is no reason why Negroes should leave. Furthermore, the threat of migration will help to change things. As long as certain people think they can keep the Negro in his place, they won't provide opportunities for him. As soon as they are faced with the threat of losing the reservoir of Negro manpower they will (as has already been evidenced) do many things to retain these workers.

"Finally, I guess you were born in New York, but maybe your parents weren't. Ask them why they or their grandparents left wherever they were and came to New York. Maybe you will find in their answer why some people must migrate.

"Anyway, thanks for reading it. If you have not already read it, borrow it from the library, get it from a friend, or maybe the neighboring bookstore has the new edition by now."

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NEGRO-LABOR UNITY RALLY TO SPUR CIO DIXIE DRIVE

"Operation Dixie"—the CIO drive to organize Southern Negro and white workers—has an important reserve in the Negro-labor unity rally and demonstration called by Peoples Voice for Sunday, May 5, at Golden Gate Ballroom, 142 and Lenox Ave.

This prominent Negro newspaper aims through this rally "chiefly to promote the building of a strong and democratic movement in the South." The rally will be preceded by a parade, in which the people of Harlem and trade unionists will demonstrate that they stand "shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters in the South, black and white alike; that we are behind labor's drive to organize the South."

Already endorsed by the Greater New York CIO Council and the Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York, the rally has the national support of Negro and white leaders.

Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, states of the effort: "I shall be glad to serve as a sponsor."

Other prominent sponsors include Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown; Frank Stanley, president of the National Negro Publishers Association; Dr. Ira Reid, noted sociologist at Atlanta U.; Donald Henderson, president of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers of the CIO; Judge Hubert Delaney; Councilman Benjamin J. Davis; Councilman Pete Cacchione; Councilman Mike Quill; Councilman Eugene P. Connolly; Roscoe Dunjee, editor of the Black Dispatch; George Marshall, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties; Lyndon Henry; Sally Mills; Charles Collins; William Rix, CIO Packinghouse Workers; Daisy George, Business Agent, Hotel, Club and Employees, AFL; John T. McManus, president New York Newspaper Guild, CIO.

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Date 4-18-46.

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FILE File

Group Plans First Dance for Vets

The Veterans Progressive Committee, recently organized by Mrs. Viola Bond, plans its first dance on January 3 at the Hotel Diplomat, benefits of which are to go toward the payment on property in which veterans are invited to share as living quarters.

Mrs. Bond is chairman of the committee. Other members are Clifford Storey, Constance Irving, Gerald Hasell, Everett B. Pina and Courtney Hasell.

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87 FEB 19 1947

EX-11

This is a clipping from Page 8
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57 MAR 1 - 1947

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OBITUARY

On the Passing of Gene Talmadge

(Reprinted, in part from The People's Voice, October 5, 1942)

By ERNEST JOHNSON

THE GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA, Eugene Talmadge, is dead. Cause of death was given as nephritis, meaning inadequate vote fixt, and apoplexy, meaning absence of a safety valve when he blew his top. . . . The late governor strove hard to give the people of Georgia the kind of government of which he thought he should have been proud. Some were, some weren't—thanks to those who weren't.

The deceased, a practicing lawyer, left Atlanta in 1912 to get himself politically born in McRae, Telfair county. . . . He took up farming, that is, sowing seeds of discontent and harvesting the fruits of dirty politics. His first job was solicitor of the city court of McRae, 1918 to 1926. Naturally, he solicited all the personal support on which he could lay a vinegar-coated tongue. At a tender age he learned the dynamics of race-baiting, not a new art; but it took young Gene to put it on the big-time circuit.

In 1917, he was named state commissioner of agriculture. Then he did go to town—in fact, he went to many towns and spewed forth vindictiveness—spelt with a capital "V" as in Victory." . . . His medicine show sold a tonic for run-down prejudices, an ointment to open sores cut on the boss, and a special cure-all for the blacks. So successful was he with his show that he actually got himself elected for his first two years as governor, 1933 to 1937.

The state law put him out for four years, but he returned in 1941. It was like old home week, too, when the folks back yonder took him up on his invitation to come up to Atlanta and bring the family. It was while in search of his fourth term that the late brother was overcome by enlightened public opinion and he a bombastic Negrophobe. Via radio his rantings about racial equality and white supremacy were delivered right into the homes, factories and taverns. To Gene he was but mouthing the state's motto of "Wisdom, Justice and Moderation"; only it wasn't wise, nor just, nor moderate.

Soon the candidate began to see spots before his eyes, black spots. From day to day they got bigger and blacker and more powerful. Diagnosis revealed these spots to be the bogey of racial equality. He was a sick man and only election could cure him. Then, on the morning of December 21 his blood pressure hit an all-time high; his red suspenders faded and drooped; the tip of his cigar rested on his chin. He kicked, threw a spasm and then answered the horn.

When the news spread people began talking about Gene's record while a tenant in the capitol. He was generally credited with having improved the roads and highways of Georgia by making all of the roads lead to interracial discord. His heart was with the common-man—the commoner the better.

Mourning the departed are the members and friends of Hitler and Company, the Ku Klux Klan, the White Supremacy League. (We can now add to this list the newly organized Columbians.—The Editor.)

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56 JAN 27 1947

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Rep. Powell Placed On Labor Committee

Rep. A. Clayton Powell is warming up for a pitched battle in the House committee on education and labor, to which he and nine other Democrats were appointed by the party caucus. This committee is due to be flooded with squelch-labor bills, and Powell has fifteen Republicans as well as a number of anti-labor Democrats to contend with.

Another of labor's few friends in Congress, Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-N.Y.) is thus far a man without a committee. Democrats refuse to assign him, saying as an independent he must look to the majority party for an appointment, and Republicans pass the buck by pointing out that he was elected on a Democratic as well as ALP nomination.

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PEOPLES VOICE
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City CIO Greets 'Voice' Rally

New York

The City CIO has sent greetings to the May 5 rally sponsored by People's Voice, Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., editor of the paper, announced yesterday.

The rally, to be held at the Golden Gate, 142d St. and Lenox Ave., will stimulate support for labor's drive to organize Southern workers. It will start at 3:30 p.m. and will be preceded by a parade starting at 2 p.m. from 124th St. and Seventh Ave.

Speaking for the City CIO executive board, Saul Mills, secretary-treasurer, said:

"The 'People's Voice,' sponsor of the May 5 Negro Labor Unity Rally, has consistently supported all efforts to organize Negro workers into democratic unions, free of discrimination and dedicated to a better life for all. The PV is to be complimented on this effort to strengthen further the bonds between organized labor and the Negro people everywhere."

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87 JUL 13 1946

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This is a clipping from page 3 of the DAILY WORKER

Date 5/3/46

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87 JUL 24 1946

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

b7c

2,500 AT RALLY HERE TO 'ORGANIZE SOUTH'

The removal of "reactionary, Red-baiting, old-line Socialists" from the leadership of the Congress of Industrial Organizations campaigns to organize the South was demanded yesterday at a "Join Organize the South" rally backed by left-wing labor leaders and Harlem political figures.

The meeting, at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142d Street and Lenox Avenue, was attended by 2,500 persons, who gave a wild reception to Father Divine, making one of his rare appearances outside of his own heaven. The cult leader pledged his political support to Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr., chairman of the rally, which was sponsored officially by his newspaper The People's Voice, in celebration of its fourth anniversary.

Mr. Powell made a bitter attack on Van A. Bittner, director of the CIO's "Operation Dixie," and asked for his removal as "a menace to organized labor." Mr. Bittner recently said that the CIO repudiated the support of all outside organizations in its coming drive and singled out Mr. Powell's group for particular attack. However, the Greater New York CIO Council endorsed yesterday's rally.

Senator James M. Mead, listed as the principal speaker, did not attend. He sent a telegram from Washington pleading the pressure of official business there but assured the meeting of his "support of pending legislative measures for the advancement of colored people."

Other speakers included Acting Mayor Vincent R. Impellitteri, Representative Vito Marcantonio, Communist Councilman Benjamin J. Davis Jr., and Arthur Osman, president of the Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Union, CIO.

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This is a clipping from page 10 of the New York Times for 5-6-46

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58 JUL 22 1946

NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1946

Powell's Opponent Terms Him Too Dangerous for Congress

Negro Chaplain Hits Pro-Red Leanings

Declares He Provides Miserable Inspiration To Youth of Race

By RAY GREENE,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., today was called "a dangerous person to be in the national Congress," a "very confused man" and a political opportunist of the first water" by his Republican opponent in the coming election, Capt. Grant Reynolds, a Negro Army chaplain.

Asked if he believed Rep. Powell to be a Communist, Capt. Reynolds, a six-foot clergyman, said: "If it suits his purpose to voice the sentiments of the Communists he does it."

"Miserable Inspiration."

He referred to Mr. Powell, who is also a clergyman, as furnishing a miserable inspiration for Negro youth" by giving a one-sided picture of Negro life and ignoring the constructive phase.

Speaking at Republican Campaign headquarters, 54 W. 46th St., the Republican designee termed the Congressman insincere in his Help Organize the South movement which was repudiated by Van Bittner, director of the CIO Southern campaign.

As an example of the way he operates, said Capt. Reynolds, Mr. Powell made a flying trip to Atlanta and back and then reported he had traveled 6000 miles through the South studying the conditions of the sharecroppers. Mr. Reynolds added that by [illegible]

Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Garvan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

File Mr. Powell

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DATED 5-8-46
FORWARDED BY N.Y. DIVISION

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2 JUL 15 1946

FILE

SOAPBOX
In Washington

(Speech delivered by Congressman Powell at the tenth anniversary dinner of the American Labor Party)

NOW AND THEN AT MY CHURCH we have what I call "family talks." Regardless of what message I may have prepared in advance, when the weather is rainy I always deliver a "family talk." This is because usually only the tried and true brave the weather to come to church and I, therefore, can talk with a minimum risk of outsiders hearing what should be confined to the ears of only the membership. I have chosen this occasion to deliver a family talk from one of the best friends of labor and liberalism in the House of Representatives, in the fold of Protestantism, and in the Negro race. These are going to be sober, measured words which many of you will not like, and some of you may resent.

Gathered together here tonight is the spearhead of labor and the backbone of the progressive movement in the State of New York. We have come together to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the oldest active third party movement in America. Ten years is not long when measured in the great sweep of the onward surge of world history but when placed against the rapidly shifting background of what has happened since 1936, the American Labor Party and all that it stands for is to be congratulated on weathering the storm that has not only seen literally hundreds of liberal movements rise and fall but also great earth-shaking philosophies strike with seemingly invincible strength only to wax and wane.

We have climbed from out of the circumscribed political ghettoes of minorities into positions of national, and in some instances international significance. We have seen new great allies come forth to stand with us—the great Congress of Industrial Organizations, the tremendously important National Citizens' Political Action Committee, and the strategic Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Professions and Sciences. We are no longer a weak, struggling movement. We are strong and therein lies our weakness and, unless corrective action is taken immediately, our downfall. This tenth anniversary is a dangerous occasion.

Ten years is a dangerous age for any liberal organization but

Congressman Adam C. Powell

Bill Powell

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57 AUG 5 1946

more so because of that most untimely event of current history and what will be recorded as the greatest disaster of World War II—the tragic passing of world liberalism's Commander-in-Chief Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

With the passing of FDR, liberalism began to spiral downward. Its unity disintegrated. It began to fall apart at the seams. Leadership indulged in sniping and bickering. Within the brief space of twelve months reaction has swept back into the saddle—not the same kind of pre-Pearl Harbor leadership but one much more vicious, deep seated and widespread.

This country and therefore the world tonight is in the hands of poll-taxers. The Republican Party has strayed completely from the concepts of Abraham Lincoln and the Democratic Party is straying rapidly from the philosophy of FDR. Not only are the polltaxers the undisputed bosses of the Democratic Party but the Republican Party has placed its official stamp of approval upon Bilboism by selecting as its national chairman a man who was elected in poll tax Tennessee by a lesser percentage of voters than was Rankin of Mississippi. Only 5 percent of the people of Chairman Reese's District voted in the last election.

In this hour when we are rapidly losing the peace and there is some question as to whether we even won the war, where stands the liberal? The liberal stands today as a man with a philosophy but no program—member of a movement but with no united organization—follower of a cause but with no integrated leadership. The proof of this tragic plight is the recent attack made by the No. 1 liberal of the Republican Party, Harold Stassen.

There were scores of people who were far more vulnerable than those chosen as Mr. Stassen's targets. He had the political good sense, however, not to attack them even though they represent the minority. Instead he attacked Wallace, Schwellenbach and Bowles. Why? Because Mr. Stassen knew that these three men although they represented the vast majority of American citizens, represented however a group of people who had no unity and who were completely disorganized.

(To be continued next week.)

FILE

Truman Moves Toward Fascism

(Editorial)

PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN's call for Congress to give him power to break strikes and conscript workers is a serious move in the direction of fascism. The people of America — and especially the Negro people, who would suffer most from fascist reaction — must reject this proposal to shackle organized labor and thereby undermine the foundations of our democratic liberties.

Last week's railroad tie-up confronted the nation with a serious emergency. The President had to act — and did. But the action he took demonstrated, once again, his inability to measure up to the requirements of statesmanship.

The railroad workers rank low (27th among the various industries) in hourly earnings. Their working conditions do not include even such elementary and commonplace union contract guarantees as an eight-hour day, overtime pay after forty hours, sick leave, and paid holidays. Their efforts to improve these and other working conditions through negotiation with their profit-swollen bosses were rejected with an arrogance of which only the power of great wealth is capable. So they went out on strike.

Then did Truman "crack down" — not on the exploiting railroad magnates, but on the workers. With a passion he has never shown against reactionary enemies of the people, the President denounced the strike leaders as if they, rather than the bosses, were to blame. And going far beyond the requirements of this immediate emergency, he called for legislative curbs on all labor which are fearfully reminiscent of the early days when Hitler was establishing fascist controls over the German people.

(Continued on page 16)

The Peoples Voice

Peoples Voice

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100 AUG 11 1946

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55 AUG 16 1946

Truman Helps Fascism

(Continued from Page 1)

Let us never forget why and how fascism came to Germany.

● The powerful German industrialists and financiers, faced with a break-down of their capitalist economy, determined to "solve" their problem by establishing German imperialist domination over Europe and all the world. This meant war.

● They financed Hitler's rise to power, establishing him as an absolute dictator, in order to suppress all democratic liberties and prepare the nation for imperialist war.

● Hitler began by smashing the German trade unions, the main bulwark of democratic security. There followed the thorough destruction of all the people's organizations, the brutal oppression of the Jews and other minorities, the harsh regimentation of the lives and thoughts of the whole German people, and then, when the nation was considered "ready"—war!

And let us never forget also that powerful industrialists and financiers in America have ambitions, themselves, to dominate the markets of the world—and they are quite ready to establish fascism here at home in preparation for their imperialist adventures abroad.

The Truman Administration has thus far been the willing servant of American imperialism in its drive toward war against the Soviet Union and in helping Britain to suppress the freedom struggles of colonial peoples. Now, whatever may be his intentions, the President is paving the way to American fascism by aligning the power of Government with that of imperialist reaction in a drive to crush the growing democratic influence of organized labor.

He proposes, among other things:

● to revive the oppressive anti-strike injunctions of a generation ago;

● to deprive striking workers of their seniority rights; and

● to conscript striking workers into the Army and force them back on their jobs under military discipline.

In short, the President wants the power to force involuntary servitude upon the American workers.

The Negro people know well what this means—because some eighty-odd years ago a great Civil War was fought to free our forefathers from involuntary servitude. As free citizens, as workers, and as members and allies of organized labor, we will resist with all our power any and all efforts to restore slavery to our nation.

We are not misled by Truman's proposal to apply these oppressive labor curbs only to "strikes against the Government." If Government would take over the ownership of major industries and operate them for the public good (as with the Post Office), that would be progress. But for Government to step in merely to break strikes for arrogant profit-seeking employers would mean a fascist throw-back to an earlier day of reaction.

We are not misled by the President's proposal to use these "emergency powers" only until the war we thought was over has been "officially" declared at an end. It would be far too easy "officially" to continue the "war emergency" until our imperialist-dominated State Department succeeds in provoking its World War III—and then, indeed, the liberties of our people would be in jeopardy.

We are not misled by the Republicans' proposal to use the President's "emergency" labor curbs, but at the same time to adopt the permanent shackles on labor in the vicious Case Bill. This is sheer demagogy which will by no means fool the workers.

Nor are we misled by the fact that the Railroad Brotherhoods, whose strike provided the occasion for this frenzied attack upon labor, are notoriously anti-Negro in their membership. All labor is now imperiled! It should be clear to the Brotherhoods, however, that they simply have got to drop their jimcro bars to the end of promoting the unity of all workers in the face of this most serious threat to organized labor in a generation.

As THE PEOPLE'S VOICE goes to press, it appears that the democratic pro-labor forces of America have checked, at least temporarily, the Administration's drive to rush anti-labor measures through an hysterical Congress. But let every resource of all our people's organizations be mobilized quickly to crush this most fundamental attack upon the democratic foundations of our society.

Let the President and the Senate feel the wrath of aroused people fighting for their liberties. And let us remember the enemies of labor when this fall's congressional elections come around.

It was said of Italy's Mussolini that "he made the trains run on time." May this never be said with similar irony of a Truman or anyone else in a Fascist America.

Rep. Powell Opens Campaign; Cites Gains for Negroes

The independent non-partisan committee for the re-election of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., to Congress formally launched its campaign yesterday with an initial committee meeting at the Abyssinian Baptist Church.

In his first campaign speech Rep. Powell spoke on "Things I have accomplished during my 18 months in Congress."

Citing a long list of actions taken in behalf of his constituents and on matters of vital interest to the Negro people and others, he specified:

1. The appointment to the Annapolis Naval Academy of Wesley Brown, the first Negro to complete one year at that institution.

2. Proposed an amendment to the federal educational bill barring aid to states discriminating against Negro children in the allocation of lunch expenditures. This was the first piece of legislation proposed by a Negro to be passed in Congress since the days of Reconstruction.

3. Secured, with Rep. Marcantonio, a resolution by the House labor committee to take up FEPC on every calendar Wednesday.

4. Proposed a bill to abolish Jim-crow in interstate transportation which was defeated by a Republican-Democratic coalition.

5. Secured the appointment of a Negro woman, Thomasina Johnson,

POWELL

to the minorities branch of the labor department, making her the highest paid woman in United States government service.

Another victory in New York City involved the appointment of a Negro, Louis Chisholm, as a secretary to the fire commissioner. On his voting record he voted for Bretton Woods, for the increase of post office employes' salaries, for the continuation of OPA, and against the booby trap OPA. He voted against the abolition of the National Labor Relations Board.

He also voted against the Barsky contempt citation, and against the Case Bill.

He explained that his three longest absences from Congress were on the occasion of his mother's death, an illness just after the Negro freedom rally, and the death of his wife's mother.

Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace and Councilman Benjamin Davis have endorsed Powell.

Joe Louis has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the re-election committee. Hon. vice chairman is J. Finley Wilson, Republican Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks. Campaign chairman is Dr. Godfrey Nurse, Democrat. Mrs. Angelina Blocker, Republican, is co-chairman. Odell Clerk, American Labor Party, vice chairman, Rev. George Sims, Jr., Republican vice chairman. Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haynes, Democrat, is recording secretary; Wilford Lewin, Republican, corresponding secretary. Treasurers are Charles Buchanan, Peoples Voice publisher and Frank Shiffman, owner of the Apollo Theatre.

Committee for re-election of A.C. Powell — Joe Louis honorary chairman

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59 JUL 25 1946

FILE

Powell Launches Campaign

'I Stand on My Record' — Adam C. Powell, Jr.

"Send Him Back" was the battle cry of over 500 committee members of persons of various political beliefs who pledged to work for the return of Congressman Adam Clayton Powell jr to Congress at a meeting held at Abyssinian Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon. Powell has been endorsed by both the Democrats and the American Labor Party but was spurned by the Republicans for another choice.

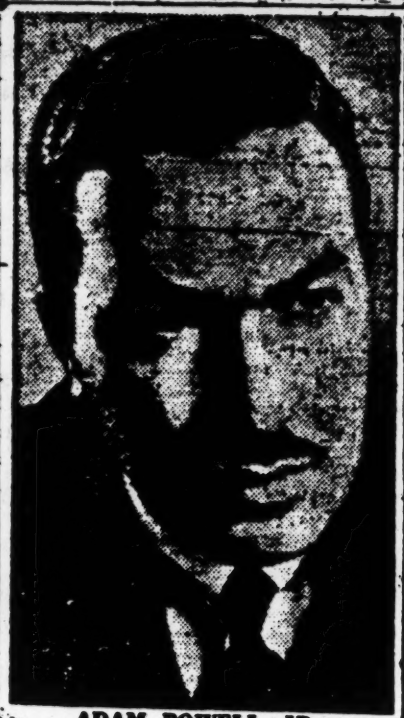
"I feel that I can win on the combined strength of the ALP and the Democrats because they will poll close to 70,000 votes in the fall, while the Republicans can only look for about 11,000," said Powell, "but I want to be sent back to Congress unanimously because I want to answer to the people and not some political machine! I sincerely feel that I will be sent back to Congress on my record. That speaks for itself!"

A partial listing of the campaign officers of the Powell committee includes Joe Louis, honorary chairman; J. Finley Wilson, honorary vice-chairman; Dr. Godfrey Nurse, chairman; and Joseph Ford, campaign manager.

There are several committees with Beau Jack and Ray Robinson heading the sports group. A dinner will be held this week and the plans of the various members of the committees will be outlined in detail.

Following are highlights of acts, bills and deeds of Powell during his current term:

- amendment to Federal aid to school lunch bill—stating no money for states where Negroes did not get equal lunch facilities;
- asked Dewey to investigate the Freeport murders;



ADAM POWELL, JR.

- sent first Negro to Annapolis Naval Academy in 16 years;
- broke discrimination in prison in Ansonia, Conn.;
- called Bilbo "a rat;"
- fought for Negroes to appear in Constitution Hall;
- fought plan for Negro veto hospital in McCoomba, Miss;
- proposed a bill to eliminate jimcro schools in Washington;
- fought for Permanent FEPC;
- proposed that Virgin Islanders be allowed to become citizens and naturalized;
- for Anti-Lynch law;
- against interstate travel jimcro;
- for anti-poll tax;
- for citizenship for people of India.

It was pointed out that during Congressman Powell's term he had appointed over forty persons to jobs paying over $2,500, including the Thomasina Johnson job which pays in excess of $9,000 — the top salary of any woman job holder. There were several other appointments including over 100 post office jobs.

In over 800 armed forces court martial cases in which he intercede, Powell pointed out that every sentence was reduced or the persons involved were released.

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55 AUG 19 1946

One God - One People

BY BEN RICHARDSON

I THINK I'LL CLEAN HOUSE this week. There are a lot of loose ends to be tied up. Last week I mentioned the pogrom in Kielce, Poland, which resulted in the death of forty-six Jewish persons. At that time I said that a high Christian official, the Primate of the Roman Catholic Church of Poland, August Cardinal Hlond, in an exclusive press statement had said that the Jews had only themselves to blame for the outrage. No doubt there will be many Christians of all faiths who will want to take issue with me for having pointed out the anti-Semitic nature of the Primate's statement. For them I wish to offer further proof of my contentions.

Invitation to Violence

IN A PASTORAL LETTER some years earlier, Cardinal Hlond declared:

"A Jewish question exists, and there will be one so long as the Jews remain Jews. It is an actual fact that the Jews fight against the Catholic Church, they are free-thinkers, and constitute the vanguard of atheism, bolshevism and revolution. The Jewish influence upon morals is fatal, and the publishers spread pornographic literature. It is also true that the Jews are committing frauds, practicing usury, and dealing in white slavery. It is true that in the schools, the Jewish youth is having an evil influence, from an ethical and religious point of view upon the Catholic youth . . . Not all the Jews are, however, like that."

The Cardinal then directs his animos against Jews into an economic channel and says:

"One does well to prefer his own kind in commercial dealings and to avoid Jewish stores and Jewish stalls in the markets, but it is not permissible to demolish Jewish businesses. One should protect oneself against the evil influence of Jewish morals and particularly boycott the Jewish press and the Jewish demoralizing publications, but it is inadmissible to assault, hit or injure the Jews."

The Cardinal's concession in the first paragraph that all Jews are not as bad as those he described, is a watered balm for his conscience and his statement that it is "inadmissible to assault" Jews, is a tissue-thin subterfuge after he has excited the animosity of non-Jews to near violence. I would welcome a refutation of my remarks concerning Christianity's relentless persecution of Jews in all times. This goes for Catholics and Protestants alike.

The Taxicab Case

THIS COLUMN REPORTED a recent incident of discrimination by a taxicab driver against Alice Childress, star of "Anna Lucasta," and her friends. The offending driver was brought to trial and suspended for five days. The case is not through. But this was the extent of the Hack Bureau's authority to handle the matter. The driver was found guilty of refusing to carry passengers. That's a violation of Hack Regulations. The fact that they were Negroes was not involved, but will be brought up as a separate issue. The failure on the part of the policeman to take action against him for his incitous-to-riot conduct will be handled in turn.

Let me reiterate: Until you have real assurances that the police will cooperate with the offended instead of the offenders (as is apparently the case, judging from the recent beating of a woman by a policeman to whom she appealed when a cab driver refused to carry her), it is best to note the cab driver's number inside the cab or his license number and report the incident to the Hack Bureau, 156 Greenwich st. If in doubt, get in touch with me at MUrray Hill 2-7551.

Concerning God

I HAVE JUST RETURNED from a speaking engagement with the distinguished author, Pierre van Paassen. While waiting for the meeting to start, I was approached by a young lady who asked if she might discuss a matter with me. I welcomed the inquiries she wanted to make. She said:

"I believe in God because I don't know how not to. I have always been told the usual things about HIM and for want of any information to the contrary, I have accepted the beliefs of others without question. Are there proofs of God?"

This was not an unusual question. I have been asked it many times and to each inquirer I have had to admit that I did not know the entire answer, but I have always been able to give some little instance of flashes of proof that the world is shot through with human kindness. I was glad I was able to offer her such an example. I said:

"For a long time I have passed a little old lady sitting in front of one of the entrances to Charles Weisbecker's market on 125 st. She is poor and simply clad. She sells shopping bags. As people come out of the market burdened with their purchases, one hears her say:

"'Honey, you can't carry all these bundles. Don't you want a shopping bag?' She is not anxious to sell the bags, although she can't make a living otherwise. One senses instead, that she wants only to help. Unlike the slick peddlers who hawk their wares furtively up and down the street, she doesn't look for 'suckers.' She can't. She's blind."

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43 SEP 6 1946

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58 SEP 16 1946

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Talmadge Lie Quotes PV

The devil can quote the scripture to his own advantage—and Georgia's race-hating governor-elect Eugene Talmadge quoted the PEOPLE'S VOICE, on the radio program, "Meet the Press" last Friday night, to clear his record of the 14 lynchings which took place during his six previous years as chief executive of that state.

On the program, four reporters were interviewing "Gallus Gene." Arthur Sylvester of the "Newark Evening News" has asked about the 14 lynchings that occurred during Talmadge's regime. "That is not true. There was not a single lynching during my three previous terms as Governor," Talmadge lied.

When Sylvester countered this denial with a recital of the names of the victims and the places where the deaths occurred, Talmadge, in an obvious evasion of a direct answer, quoted last week's "PV" article "Patterns of Violence" which related acts of terror and injustice against Negroes throughout the nation in recent months, showing that Georgia was not alone. Sylvester forced Talmadge to admit that "one crime doesn't mitigate another," however. But a few minutes later the Georgian was back with the same lie—the 14 lynchings listed in the "NY Times" for August 2, from the records of the Southern Regional Council, were, he said, "a mirage."

Talmadge stressed throughout the interview that he intends to repeal state primary laws permitting Negroes to vote and establish a "Democratic white primary."

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85 SEP 20 1946

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59 SEP 25 1946 367

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FILE

China - Pol

Big Lying Spree

THE U. S. STATE DEPARTMENT and the corporate controlled daily press are engaged in an orgy of BIG LIES, and we would do well to understand clearly their role in preparing our nation for a war of imperialist aggression.

All informed people know that Chiang Kai Shek is plunging his country into civil war as a means of warding off the emerging democratic forces and of clamping down upon the Chinese people the traditional oppression of the feudalistic landlords and the Anglo-American imperialists. Yet we are giving material and military aid to Chiang Kai Shek against the democratic forces of China, including the communists, on the grounds that our Marines and ships and guns are used there "to protect democracy."

Everybody knows that the democratic people's movement of Greece was brutally suppressed by British gunfire and concentration camps, and that the oppressive Greek government is nothing but a tool of aggressive British imperialism. Yet the New York Times echoes our State Department's lie that Greece "is today the only citadel of freedom east of Russia's iron curtain."

It is clear that Britain's fascist-like oppression of the Jews in Palestine is designed solely to consolidate Britain's domination over Middle East oil and other imperialist booty. Yet our Government and press popularize the falsehood that Britain is acting as an "impartial umpire" between the Arabs and Jews and is seeking to suppress "terroristic bandits."

It is well known that our Government was violating all international law and deliberately provoking conflict when, despite repeated protests, we continued to send our planes across Yugoslavian territory without permission. Yet when Yugoslavia, with perfect right, forced two of our planes to land, our State Department and the press set up a terrific howl about the "war-like aggression of dictator Tito."

Our Government is busy acquiring military bases all over the world, parading our fleet in the Mediterranean, and trying to force its will on the new democratic countries which have emerged in Central Europe. Yet we interpret Russia's insistence upon friendly governments adjacent to her borders as evidence of "Red imperialist expansion."

These are sheer lies—and more like them could be listed at length. What do they mean?

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NOT RECORDED
56 SEP 23 1946

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This is a clipping from Page 16
of PEOPLES VOICE, date 9-31-46.
Clipped at Seat of Government

56 OCT 11 1946

Simply this: The great monopolies who dominate our Government, and especially our foreign policy, are out to establish hegemony over the markets of the world. Resurgent American imperialism is determined to force all other nations, even including Britain, to accept dictation from the U.S.A. Colossus—or else! Russia, constantly struggling to uproot fascism and to establish a peace that will stick, is the main obstacle to American imperialist expansion; hence the lying propaganda of our State Department and press are preparing the American people for war against our Soviet allies.

It was never more evident than right now our Government speaks not for the people who elected it, but for great wealth which pulls the strings behind the scene. The American people want peace; they want friendship and cooperative relations with the Soviet Union; they want freedom for the oppressed peoples of the world. The Truman Administration dare not frankly declare its intentions to provoke war, to seek the destruction of the Soviet Union, and to strengthen the imperialist chains upon the colonial peoples. So it proceeds to work towards these reactionary goals under cover of an elaborate network of lies which our Big Business press pours constantly into the minds of the American people.

There never was a time when it was more essential for our citizens to read with skepticism the foreign policy pronouncements of our Government.

There never was a time when it was more urgent for the American people to undertake direct pressures to restore the foreign policy of our Government to the Big Three Unity basis which Roosevelt knew was the only one upon which enduring peace could be established.

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FILE

Reynolds Pats Self on Back In GOP Win Over Powell

Grant (Slick) Reynolds, ex-minister and army captain immediately held a press conference following his victory in the Republican primary over Congressman Adam Clayton Powell who sought to duplicate his 1944 capture in all major

Powell Congratulates Reynolds

Proving that there can be sportsmanship in politics, Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, who was nosed out of the Republican primary last Tuesday by 500 votes, immediately sent a congratulatory message to Grant Reynolds.

"Congratulations on your primary victory," Powell wired. "Your party machine stuck by you."

The message was signed simply "Adam." Reynolds and Powell have been acquaintances for years.

The Congressman also thanked the members of the Democratic party for their overwhelming vote which gave him a 15-1 edge on his nearest contender. He also thanked the large number of independent Republicans who "not only voted for me but worked hard." Coming in for their share of thanks were the veterans, church people and trade unionists, who worked wholeheartedly on the Powell campaign.

Contacted by THE PEOPLE'S VOICE after the primaries, Congressman Powell stated that the loss of the Republican primary was distinctly a triumph of machine Republicans over independent Republicans."

He further stated that the overwhelming registration of members of the Democratic and American Labor parties and independent Republicans meant that he will win in the November elections.

"I will continue to serve all people of all parties," he continued.

Congressman Powell left for a month's vacation on Monday.

parties' primaries. At the conference, last Wednesday in Reynold's headquarters, the Republican victor told reporters that his win over the Congressman for the Republican nomination was an indication of the Negroes "endorsement of Governor Dewey's liberalism (sic)" and cited the New York FEPC laws, the state ban and the Governor's recent speech to AFL trade unionists as proof of Republican liberalism (Mr. Reynolds neglected to mention Freeport).

Reynolds also tossed in an accusation that Congressman Powell was guilty of sending out "indiscriminate" appeals to people—including Reynolds—seeking financial support for his recent campaign. Reynolds also accused the Congressman of "brazen false hoods" in connection with his campaign.

He told reporters he had just returned from a trip to Pompton Lakes where he personally thanked Joe Louis for his support and quoted Joe as having said "Keep punching and I'm sure you'll win in November."

Asked about his views on Communism, Reynolds declared that it was no issue in this campaign and refused to make a statement for fear he would be "misquoted" and accused of "red-baiting."

The democratic domination of the U. S. Government was scored by the Republican primary winner and Democrat Adam Powell who tied in with Bilbo and Rankin and other Southern Democrats who preach and practice white supremacy.

Powell was again raked over the coals by Reynolds for his absentee record, but no mention of Powell's voting record was made. Reynolds called Powell's record a "flagrant disregard for what should have been full time representation of the Negro people."

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NOT RECORDED

87 OCT 4 1946

is a clipping from Page 4

PEOPLES VOICE, date 8-31-46.

ped at Seat of Government

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59 OCT 17 1946

[redacted] b7c

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PHILADELPHIA PW ANNOUNCEMENT

The business of the Philadelphia "People's Voice" is being consolidated in the the central (New York) office of the newspaper.

Effective immediately, all news releases, advertising orders and copy, and financial payments for the Philadelphia "People's Voice" should be sent to: "The People's Voice," 210 W. 125 st., New York 27, N. Y.

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NOT RECORDED

87 OCT 31 1946

This is a clipping from Page 31 of the PEOPLES VOICE.

Date 9-28-46

Clipped at the Seat of Government.

[redacted] b7c

57 NOV 1 1946

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87 NOV 18 1948

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This is a clipping from
Page 17 of the
PEOPLES VOICE

Date 10-26-46.
Clipped at the Seat of
Government [redacted]E DC

58 JAN 17 1947

Small Business Fights Back

Organization Is the Answer

Attempt to Oust Porters Fails at AFL Convention

Matters of importance to Negro workers, both in and out of the American Federation of Labor, generally got some fine speeches—but little else—at the 65th AFL Convention which closed two weeks of sessions here October 17. As usual [illegible] against Negroes, taken against AFL unions which discriminate [illegible]

[illegible]

Randolph Official Calm About Rivals

Pullman porters are not dissatisfied with their national leadership, Ashley Totten, international secretary-treasurer of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, firmly maintained when asked about a reported movement from Chicago to bring the porters into the CIO instead of the AFL. [illegible]

[illegible]

Cop Claim[illegible] With Card[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Meeting S[illegible]

NORFOLK, Va.—[illegible]

New Jewelry Store Seeks Employees

[illegible]

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File

16 Negro Candidates Face NY City Voters

The record-breaking number of voters who registered in New York City recently will have the chance on November 5 to cast their ballots for 16 Negro candidates for city, state and federal office. PV's round-up of Negro candidates shows three for U. S. Congress, one for state attorney-general, two for state senator, and nine for state assembly, and one for N. Y. City Council. Ten of these candidates are in Manhattan, three in the Bronx, and two in Brooklyn, and one in Queens.

Six of the 16 Negro candidates are running on the American Labor Party ticket, five on the Democratic ticket, three on the Republican ticket, and one each on the People's Rights and the Communist tickets.

The list of Negro candidates follows, noting office sought, district, party and headquarters address:

U. S. CONGRESS:

- Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (for re-election), 21st C.D., Manhattan; Dem. and ALP; 132 W 138 st.
- Brent Reynolds, 21st C.D., Manhattan; Rep.; 112 st and 7 av.
- Roy Boden, 25th C.D., Bronx; ALP; 1723 Boston Rd.

N. Y. ATTY. GENERAL:

- Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., Communist, 200 W 135 st.

N. Y. SENATE:

- Charles A. Collins, 21st S.D., Manhattan; ALP and People's Rights; 1967 7 av.
- J. Finley Wilson, 23rd S.D., Manhattan; Rep.; 2376 7 av.

N. Y. ASSEMBLY:

- Hulan Jack (for re-election), 14th A.D., Manhattan; ALP and Dem.; 45 W 110 st.
- Harold Stevens, 13th A.D., Manhattan; Dem.; 1723 Amsterdam av.
- William T. Andrews (for re-election), 13th A.D., Manhattan; Dem.; 1 W 125 st.
- William Prince (for re-election), 11th A.D., Manhattan; Dem.; [illegible] Lenox av.
- Cyril Stephens, 11th A.D., Manhattan; ALP; 3132 7 av.
- Maude E. Richardson, 17th A.D., Brooklyn; Rep.; 6 Brooklyn av.
- Chester Addison, 5th A.D., Bronx; ALP; 1723 Boston Rd.
- John E. Griggs, Jr., 5th A.D., Bronx; Indp.; 160 W 44 st.
- Ada B. Jackson, 17th A.D., Brooklyn; ALP; 454 Halsey st.

N. Y. CITY COUNCIL:

- Charles Evans, Queens; Communist; 46-14 Queens Blvd., Sunnyside, L. I.

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Date 10-26-46.

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58 JAN 15 1947 148

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Policy for America

LAST WEEK marked the twenty-ninth anniversary of a great country which embraces many nations and races within its borders, and in whose constitution this unique provision appears:

> Equality of rights of citizens of the U.S.S.R., irrespective of their nationality or race, in all spheres of economic, state, cultural, social and political life, is an indefeasible law.
>
> Any direct or indirect restriction of the rights of, or, conversely, any establishment of direct or indirect privileges for citizens on account of their race or nationality, as well as any advocacy of racial or national exclusiveness or hatred and contempt, is punishable by law.

That country is the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and this basic constitutional guarantee there finds full expression in the day-to-day lives of all the people.

It will be a happy day for the American people when this "Russian" concept of democracy is written into the Constitution and social-economic-political fabric of the United States.

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PEOPLES VOICE
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57 JAN 22 1947

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Truman Planning Civil Rights Commission

WASHINGTON — President Truman will create by executive order a commission on civil rights, which will be authorized to hold hearings and formulate legislation broadening existing federal civil rights laws for presentation to the next Congress according to Louis Lautier, Washington correspondent for the National Negro Publishers Association, in his column, "Capital Spotlight," this week.

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Date NOV 30 1946

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52 FEB 18 1947

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Powell Calls Harlem Legislative Conference

Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. issued a call Friday to all individuals and organizations of Harlem to attend a people's legislative conference Saturday, Dec. 21st at 12 a.m. at the Abyssinia Church, 132 W. 138th St.

Main item on the conference agenda is the discussion of police cooperation with Harlem citizens. The conference will elect a delegation to go to Washington to confer with the elected Republican leaders of the House and the Senate.

G.I.R.-5

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NOT RECORDED

80 JAN 20 1947

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This is a clipping from page 9 of the DAILY WORKER

Date 12-16-46

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57 JAN 22 1947

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File

Powell Conference Slated This Week

Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Jr, has issued a call to all individuals and organizations of Harlem to attend a people's legislative conference Saturday, December 21 at noon. This conference, though sponsored by the People's Committee, will be presided over by all the elected officials from the Harlem area, including district leaders, city councilmen, assemblymen, state senators and Congressmen.

Item 1 on the conference agenda is the discussion of police cooperation with Harlem citizens. The conference will elect a delegation to go to Washington to confer with the actual elected Republican leaders of the House and the Senate, with the view of presenting the decisions of the conference.

On the same night, December 21, the conference will conclude with a Victory Party at the Golden Gate, at which time the People's Committee will honor the 2000 volunteer workers who brought about Powell's victory.

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87 FEB 25 1947

This is a clipping from Page 2 of the PEOPLES VOICE

Date 12-21-46.

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61 FEB 26 1947

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File

Whose Bill of Rights?

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, proclaiming the 155th anniversary of the Bill of Rights (first ten amendments to the Constitution), calls upon the country to give "solemn contemplation of our liberties and the recent world-wide battle to protect them from annihilation."

The New York Times, waxing eloquent about our "famous" Bill of Rights, says it constitutes "a protective barrier around the private citizen: he may speak freely, publish freely, worship without hindrance, petition his Government for redress of grievances; he may possess arms; his home is secure against the forced quartering of soldiers; his house cannot be searched or any of his possessions seized without proper warrant; he cannot be tried and punished except by due process of law, and not twice for the same offense; if charged with crime he has a right to speedy trial and to counsel, and other protection; he is guaranteed trial by jury; he is guarded against excessive bail, excessive fines and cruel and unusual punishments."

This is interesting reading, indeed, for Negro Americans, especially for those who live in the South and in the ghettoes of northern cities.

We assure the President and the wealthy exploiters for whom the New York Times speaks that we are determined to give much more than "solemn contemplation" to the liberties set forth in the Bill of Rights. We shall organize and fight with ever greater militancy to win these democratic freedoms for the Negro and all other oppressed peoples.

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NOT RECORDED

87 FEB 25 1947

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Date 12-21-46

Clipped at the seat of Government

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58 MAR 6 1947.

City Urged to Squelch 2 Films on Racial Issue

[illegible] Herald Tribune, [illegible] Thomas Dewey, [illegible] building yesterday to show them the showing of *Abie's Irish Rose* at the Criterion and *Song of the South* at the Palace, charging that the films are not only an insult to American minorities but are [illegible] to everything that America is fighting for.

Abie's Irish Rose, the film version of the Anne Nichols comedy which ran on Broadway in the 1920s, deals with the courtship and subsequent marriage of Abie Levy and Rosemary Murphy and gets its laughs from the usual mostly from an exaggerated version of the religious and racial characteristics attributed to the lovers' fathers, Solomon and Patrick.

Song of the South, at the Palace since Nov. 27, is a Walt Disney production which depicts the subservient life of Negroes in the old South.

Powell was not alone in his blast against *Abie's Irish Rose*, which opened Saturday. Jimmy Fidler, in a radio broadcast Sunday night, called the picture a "black eye" on Hollywood and suggested that all Hollywood producers chip in to defray the costs of Bing Crosby Productions and take the picture out of circulation.

New York critics panned the film. PM's Cecelia Ager said it "digs up decomplly buried racial and religious antagonisms and fumblingly rubs them at each other in the name of humanity."

The *Times'* reviewer called the film a "travesty of laughter which leaves from exaggerated racial and religious prejudices," but added: "Somehow in this day one does not relish this sort of humor. In fact, it is downright embarrassing to see characters upon the screen insulting each other because one happens to be a Jew and the other an Irish Catholic."

The *Herald Tribune* said the "old jokes about the Jews and the Irish have not only been squeezed dry, but create at this stage in civilized progress a peculiar embarrassment among listeners." Even Hearst's *Journal-American* was cool to the production.

Anne Nichols, who wrote the play and the movie, retorted that it was a plea for tolerance and furthered the fight against bigotry. She said that throughout the years she had received hundreds of letters from people to that effect and only recently [illegible] the day before the film was shown [illegible] "This motion [illegible] good sensation work which [illegible] Henry Busch, [illegible] of the Criterion, [illegible] to be good."

Communist Party U.S.A.

51 FEB 27 1947

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Radke
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gand

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Vol-57230-A

NOT RECORDED
87 FEB 26 1947

CLIPPING FROM N. Y. PM
DATED 12-24-46
FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIV

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POWELL BREAKS TIES WITH HARLEM PAPER

Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr. announced yesterday that he "completely severs all connection" with The People's Voice, a weekly newspaper circulated in Harlem.

Friends of Mr. Powell said his decision to withdraw from association with the paper followed a conference last week with Negro national political leaders who advised him to end his ties with all left-wing groups. Many of Mr. Powell's supporters expressed the view that any connection with organizations of Communist persuasion would handicap his activities in the next Congress, which will be under Republican control.

In announcing his withdrawal from The People's Voice, which has been accused by its critics of following the Communist party line, Mr. Powell said that most readers regarded the paper as being under his personal supervision.

"This is not true and has not been for the past year and a half," Mr. Powell said. "Now that the Eightieth Congress is about to convene I am divorcing myself from all activities except minister of the Abyssinian Baptist Church and chairman of the People's Committee."

Mr. Powell said his sole partner in The People's Voice at the time it was organized in 1941 was Charles Buchanan, now general manager of the Savoy Ballroom. The present general manager of the paper is Dr. Dokey Wilkerson and the treasurer of the Powell-Buchanan Publishing Corporation is Max Yergan. Both are active in the promotion of the National Negro Congress and the Congress on African Affairs.

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43 NOT RECORDED

87 FEB 26 1947

Communist Party U.S.A.

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58 MAR 6 1947

CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y. Times

DATED 12-25-46

FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

Powell Leaves People's Voice

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell yesterday announced the end of his association with the People's Voice.

In his public statement, Powell declared: "When I was elected to Congress two years ago I thought that I would be able to carry on my duties as editor-in-chief of People's Voice and chairman of the Powell-Buchanan Publishing Corp. It became increasingly apparent this was impossible, and so about a year ago I obtained a temporary leave of absence as editor. This, however, was not sufficient because the majority of people think of People's Voice as a newspaper under my personal supervision.

"This is not so and has not been true for the past year and a half. Now that the 80th Congress is about to reconvene I am divorcing myself from all activities except as Minister of the Abyssinian Baptist Church and Chairman of the People's Committee.

"In order that there will be no mistakes concerning my relations with People's Voice I have not only resigned as editor of the People's Voice and Chairman of the Powell-Buchanan Publishing Corp., effective Dec. 10, but I have also sold all my stock. It is apparent that an individual in my position cannot afford to be intimately connected with any enterprise to which he cannot give close supervision. I wish for the People's Voice, its staff and owners the very best."

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This is a clipping from page 5 of the DAILY WORKER

Date 12-25-46

[redacted] b7c

100-371230-A

NOT RECORDED

87 DEC 31 1946

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56 JAN 20 1947

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POWELL ASKS CITY TO SHUT ABIE'S ROSE, SONG OF SOUTH

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell yesterday called on License Commissioner, Benjamin Fielding to use "his powers or to initiate steps in any suitable City Department" to close down Abie's Irish Rose at the Gotham and Song of the South at the Palace.

In his telegram to Fielding, Powell attacked the two pictures as "not only an insult to American minorities, but an insult to everything that America as a whole stands for."

Abie's Irish Rose, the film version of the Anne Nichols comedy which had a long Broadway run in the Twenties lampoons the marriage of a Jewish boy to an Irish girl and is filled with caricatured Irish and Jewish sterotypes.

Song of the South glorifies the slave South and shows Negroes as being entirely satisfied with their lot. It too uses the old familiar Hollywood Negro sterotypes.

Powell has further declared his intention of introducing legislation in the 80th Congress that will prohibit the motion picture industry and all other forms of entertainment from usuing any material "derogatory to races, creeds, and religions."

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Clipped at the Seat of Government

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55 FEB 11 1947

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People's Voice Night of Stars

Tonight is the "Night of Stars" in the Penthouse of Club 65, 13 Astor Pl. This is a gala affair to be presented by People's Voice, the newspaper dedicated to fighting racial discrimination. Great stars are contributing their talents to make this a night to remember; among them: Canada Lee, Jose Ferrar, Gordon Heath, Ruby Hill, Ray Lev, Maxine Sullivan. There will be dancing to Frankie Newton and his band.

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This is a clipping from page 5 of the DAILY WORKER

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58 FEB 4 1947

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Powell Group Makes '47 Plans

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Harlem's fighting representative, and the People's Committee held a legislative conference at Abyssinian Baptist Church Saturday, and with [illegible] congressmen, assemblymen, city councilmen, district leaders, labor and church representatives and [illegible] citizens, mapped out a plan for action to get a progressive city, state and federal legislative program for the people of Harlem during 1947. Powell roundly scored the politicians "who did not think such a conference [illegible] important enough to come to — a few short weeks after election day."

Mayor O'Dwyer was raked over the coals by Powell "because he did not have the courtesy to reply to letters asking that he (O'Dwyer) greet the gathering—or send his secretary, Paul Ross, to represent him." As excuses for non-appearing office holders were read, Powell suggested that the assemblage remember them later and proposed that a letter of censure be forwarded to O'Dwyer in the name of the conference.

The theme of the meeting was unity of all political parties for the purpose of attaining the proposals made by the conference. A scathing denunciation of the persistent attacks on Congressman Vito Marcantonio by the daily press "which is trying to link him with the Scottoriggio killing," was made by Powell. "If Mark had been involved in that business, the District Attorney would make it known. I wonder if they would have called it a political death if some of the people who were attacked at a Harlem rally at the Golden Gate before election had died instead of being injured. We all know they wouldn't!"

"If John Rankin carries out his threat to ask for the removal of Marcantonio, I think that this body should demand that I ask that John Rankin not be allowed to take his seat," said Powell.

Powell further stated that when the Democrat Sam Rayburn of Texas was Speaker of the House, he and Dawson, the other Negro Congressman, could never gain an audience or a reply from letters to him. The Congressman says it will not be difficult to gain an audience with the incoming Republican Speaker, Joseph Martin.

The conference was divided into three panels which after discussion had committees elected to formulate plans for action. The groups and their chairman are City, State and National with Lowell Clarke, Harrison Jackson and Herman C. Lester, respectively, presiding.

PROPOSED CITY ACTION

Police Protection

• Immediate treatment of Harlem the same as any other community and removal of gut tough orders;

• more adequate docks protection;

• investigation of price gouging from small businesses;

• protection of businesses against losses from burglaries.

PUBLIC MARKETS

• plans for a cooperative market sponsored by citizens suggested by John Burnett of United Small Business Associations;

• picketing of markets which sell rotten foods in Harlem;

• fight for lowering of food prices in Harlem to level of other communities;

• fight for funds to add to $[illegible],000 which has been allocated for building plans and buying a site for a Harlem market.

SCHOOLS

• More and better schools;

• no Jim Crow schools;

• raises in teacher's salaries;

• Negro history should be a required subject;

• more Parent-Teacher associations for better understanding between parents and teachers;

• elimination of segregated books.

• A NEGRO ON BOARD OF EDUCATION;

• Remodeling of Wardell-Up Houses;

• removal of restrictive covenants on houses 371-375-379 W. 126 so that Negro vets can live in them;

• write letter to carry out UNAVA proposals on housing;

• pressure for State to take over hotels and ready for vet use.

STATE ACTION

• Proposals were made that teeth be put in the FEPC Bill, or SCAD, and trials be held at the scene of an act of discrimination;

• calling of an immediate State emergency in housing;

• immediate passing of the [illegible] Bill and other legislation aimed at equalizing [illegible]

• state investigation of discrimination against Negro vets who apply for bank loans;

• [illegible] on bias or discriminatory army discharges;

• up rental prices and salaries of workers to meet present needs.

NATIONAL PROGRAM

• support Powell when he introduces anti-lynch and interstate travel bills;

• support Bilbo ouster;

• support for Marcantonio on Anti-Poll Tax Bill;

• pressure for a new OPA Bill;

• contact federal communications commission re derogatory radio remarks;

• action to keep Republicans from labor baiting;

• support Health and Housing Bills;

• social security should include domestic workers and farmers;

• aid fight for civil rights bills;

• petition all-out help from Republicans on anti-lynch legislation.

Among the speakers were Coun-

[illegible]man Eugene Connally and [illegible] Davis, William Prince, Harold [illegible]wns, Tom Sullivan and Mrs. [illegible] Alexander, Donelian Phillips, presided.

Other representatives from the People's Committee, which sponsored the meet, were Gwen Jones, Joseph Ford, Ray Lequam and Rev. David Lincoln.

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NOT RECORDED

87 FEB 25 1947

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This is a clipping from Page 5 of PEOPLES VOICE, date
Clipped at Seat of Government

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63 MAR 6 1947

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Powell Files Anti-Lynching Measure in New Congress

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—One of the first bills introduced into this session of Congress was an anti-lynching measure by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, the fighting Negro of New York. The bill makes lynching a crime, holds state and federal employes responsible for preventing lynchings, gives the Attorney General power to investigate and provides for payment of $2,000 to $10,000 to the next of kin of victims.

REP. POWELL
Submits Anti-Lynching Bill

State or federal employes who fail to protect lynch victims would be punished with fines of $5,000 and imprisonment of five years. The Attorney General is granted the power to sue in U. S. District Court in behalf of next to kin claimants to compensation. The action, however, could not be taken within the territorial jurisdiction of defendant governmental divisions.

"Fifteen million Negroes are carefully watching along with millions of democracy-loving whites—all watching to see that a real program protecting the civil rights of American citizens is instituted," Powell commented.

"The next move is up to the Republicans," he said, because the GOP now controls Congress with a clear cut majority.

Powell introduced his bill as Anti-Lynch Crusaders visited Congressmen and Senators demanding passage of a measure with teeth in it.

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This is a clipping from
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DAILY WORKER
Date 1-6-47
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100-51230-A
NOT RECORDED
87 FEB 20 1947

61 FEB 21 1947

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Unity Can Win

BIG-MONEY REACTION, through its political stooges and subsidized riffraff, is moving right ahead in an overall drive to oppress all the progressive forces of the people.

• Organized labor faces the fight of its life in trying to block nearly 200 bills in Congress designed to hamstring the trade unions.

• Negro Americans, already pushed out of many good jobs and faced with increasing lynch terror, now see southern polltaxers trying to annul the US Supreme Court decision guaranteeing their right to vote in the all-important Democratic primaries.

• "Communists" in the labor movement, in the moving picture industry, and in the schools and colleges have been named as targets of the new witchhunt being launched by the Un-American Committee of Congress.

• Liberals are learning that, in the language of reaction, anyone who fights for a better life for the people is a "communist," and deserving of persecution.

• Jews are faced with a new wave of anti-Semitic terror and discrimnation.

We would make a fatal error to assume that attacks on these groups are unrelated. They are integral parts of a coordinated campaign to destroy all progressive peoples' movements and pave the way for American fascism.

But this campaign of reaction can be defeated — through the forging of genuine anti-fascist unity among all of the progressive organizations and people of our country. Nothing is now more urgent to protect the security and freedom of our alnd.

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PV Speaker

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr., who along with Charles Buchanan founded THE PEOPLE'S VOICE during Negro History Week in 1942, will speak at PV's Fifth Anniversary meeting at Golden Gate Ballroom on Sunday, February 16, 3:30 pm. (See Congressman Powell's "Soapbox" on page 17).

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Powell Calls "Sun" Story a Lie

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell this week branded as absolutely a lie" and "a vicious piece of red-baiting" the story published in the New York Sun last Tuesday claiming that Powell's executive secretary in Washington explained his recent resignation from The People's Voice on the grounds that the newspaper is "loaded with pro-Moscow party members."

In a statement to The People's Voice this week, Congressman Powell denied that his Washington secretary, Herman Laster, made any such statement whatever to the reporter from the Washington Bureau of the New York Sun. According to Laster, a Sun reporter said he had instructions from New York to get an "inside story" of Powell's resignation from PV, but was told there is no "inside story", and was read the announcement as published in The People's Voice.

Laster, who returned to Washington from New York Monday, said he would call the Sun's reporter and demand an explanation for the "out and out lie" which was published in his newspaper.

Rep. Powell characterized the deliberately misleading story in the New York Sun as "one more attempt to disrupt the growing unity of the Negro people and of Negroes with their progressive white allies."

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Fort Greene Groups Nix Eviction Plan

Tenants in Brooklyn's Fort Greene Housing Project are still on guard despite the fact that they have helped stave off the eviction of 2,770 families by the New York Housing Authority. A few days ago the authorities said that despite the fact that the amount of persons made over $3,000 per year, no evictions could take place until housing was located for them. Of the 2,770 families, 1,343 are located in four Brooklyn projects.

At a meeting held by tenants on Friday night the Fort Greenites voted to send letters to President Truman, Mayor O'Dwyer, The Office of Temporary Control and Edmond Butler, chairman of the Housing Authority, stating that they are violently opposed to any attempt at eviction or hoisting of rents until suitable housing is found by the authority.

Among the organizations represented at the overflow meeting were The National Negro Congress, The American Youth for Democracy, The International Workers Order, The Tiny Tot Nursery School, Mothers Committee, The Fort Greene Tenants Committee and the American Veterans Committee.

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G. I. R. -8

FIFTH

ANNIVERSARY RALLY

OF

The People's Voice

February—1942
PV war born—a People's paper fighting for the democratic rights of Negroes and all other oppressed peoples

February—1947
PV presses forward—a tower of strength in the Negro-Labor struggle to build a free and secure America.

Adam C. Powell Jr.
U. S. House of Representatives

SAUL MILLS,
Secretary, CIO Council of Greater N. Y.

ALMA VESSEL,
President, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses

Ben. J. Davis Jr.
N. Y. City Council

CHARLES COLLINS
Vice-President, Hotel & Club Employees Union, Local 6 (AFL)

BEN RICHARDSON
PV's "One God—One People" Columnist

"ALL ABOARD"—Dramatic Skit by Stage for Action

Willie Bryant, "MC"
Olivette Miller — Zero Mostel
Anne Hathaway — Kenneth Spencer

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 3:30 P. M.
GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM
142nd Street and Lenox Avenue
ADMISSION FREE
You're in the Know when you read The People's Voice

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Progressive Councilmen To Fight Race Hate Books

The City Council has entered the fight against race-baiting textbooks used in the schools here. Resolutions will be introduced at the council's meeting today (Tuesday, February 25) calling for removal of the books which slander Negroes, Jews, and other racial groups, and for a councilmanic investigation to determine the persons responsible for approving the derogatory literature.

The resolutions will be introduced by Councilmen Benjamin J. Davis jr, Peter V. Cacchione, Eugene P. Connolly and Michael J. Quill. They will quote passages from some of the books whose banning they are demanding.

The joint statement of these councilmen calls attention to the banning from school shelves last week of Howard Fasts' "Citizen Tom Paine," and concludes: "It begins to make honest people wonder which members of the Board of Education approve the Hitler philosophy of racial superiority. . . . The passages are so vile that if they were laid side by side with passages from Mein Kampf or statements from Goebbels, difference could hardly be distinguished." (See story on Howard Fasts' book, Page 4)

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G. I. R. -2

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SOAPBOX
In Washington

CONGRESS HAS OFFICIALLY OPENED. Not only because the past Tuesday saw the first quorum call and the first day with two hard rules. It also marks my first tiff with Cousin John from Mississippi. Funny thing, I never consider Congress really open until I have had opening skirmish with Rankin.

As recorded in the Congressional Record, Mr. Rankin was making his first speech and he started off by saying, "Negro". A little later on his face got flushed and he said, "Nigra". I knew it was coming and so I got ready. Finally, it came. He spit out the word which we all hate. Immediately the following took place:

"MR. POWELL. Mr. Speaker, a parliamentary inquiry.

THE SPEAKER. Will the gentleman yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

MR. RANKIN. No. I will not yield for that purpose.

MR. POWELL. Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

THE SPEAKER. The gentleman will state his point of order.

MR. POWELL. Is it within the rules of this Congress to refer to any group of our nation in disparaging terms?

MR. RANKIN: It is not disparaging to call them Negroes, as all respectable Negroes know.

MR. POWELL. I am addressing the Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. The Chair is not aware of the disparaging term used.

MR. POWELL. He used the term 'nigger' in referring to a group.

THE SPEAKER. The Chair understood the gentleman to say 'Negro'.

MR. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, I said what I always say and what I am always going to say when referring to these people.

THE SPEAKER. The gentleman will proceed in order.

MR. POWELL. Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

THE SPEAKER. The Chair overrules the point of order."

What does this mean? This means that Speaker Joe Martin, Republican of Massachusetts, became the first Speaker in Congress to legalize the use of the word "nigger" by a Congressman. I especially would like to know if the Republican leaders in Harlem are going to let this go unprotested.

A. Clayton Powell

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Following Rankin, I got the floor and made the following speech:

"MR. POWELL. Mr. Speaker, at all times here and elsewhere I will always refer to the members of this nation, whether they are black or white, Jew or Gentile, Protestant or Catholic, in the highest terms. It is unbelievable that any practice contrary to this can be allowed in this the highest body of the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with the Committee on Un-American Activities. I do not agree with it because of the way it was formed. I do not agree with it because of the way it has functioned. I do think there is need for a committee on Un-American activities. I think such a committee properly conceived could do a tremendous job for good. But this present committee has consistently aimed at only one phase of so-called un-American activities—that of communism. I make no brief for communism. It has plenty who can and do speak for it. I am not a Communist and I am not in favor of communism. However, I must defend the right of any individual to maintain whatever particular view he holds until such a view is declared illegal by act of Congress. It is not illegal now to be a Communist. Those of you who are so afraid of Red scares should have the guts to make communism illegal. Until then it is legal.

I am not in favor of this citation or any other, because, first, I have faith in our Department of Justice and our Federal Bureau of Investigation to do the job our laws have set them up for. Second, I have faith in the United States, which we all love; faith in the right, the moral right and the moral power of this nation to triumph over any form of ism which may be against us. Third, I would vote against Mr. Eisler or anyone else if the evidence was properly presented and it was indisputably proven that he was an enemy of our country. Fourth, I am against the Committee on Un-American Activities because of its methods. It follows an un-American pattern of prejudgment. And, fifth, the Committee on Un-American Activities is not impartial in its investigations. It is one-sided. It creates a terror of communism while it ignores the deeds of strife and violence. If the Committee on Un-American Activities would go into such things as the Columbians, Inc., the lynchings of Georgia and elsewhere, the anti-Negro and anti-Jewish groups, and the Ku Klux Klan, then I would support it.

"As it is now constituted and functioning, I cannot support this or any other citation."

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G.I.R.

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The Negro Press

NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER WEEK—February 23 to March 7—sponsored by the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, marks the 120th anniversary of the Negro press.

There are in America about 155 Negro newspapers, distributed among 32 different states, having an aggregate circulation of nearly 2,000,000 copies weekly, and publishing close to 4,000,000 inches of advertising lineage per year. Well over one-third of all Negro families in the United States, and more than two-thirds of the Negro families in urban communities, are reached and influenced by these publications.

Here is a far-flung and rapidly expanding journalistic enterprise, constantly improving in technical efficiency, which is designed to serve the special interests of the Negro people. It has aptly been called "the greatest single power in the Negro race."

There is a basic interdependence between the progress of the Negro people and the progress of the Negro press which both would do well to understand.

As the Negro people have grown in educational attainment, economic strength and political maturity, building up their organizations for ever more effective struggles toward dignity and freedom in American society, they have found need for a means of expression which general media of communication refuse or neglect to serve. The Negro press has fulfilled this need, stimulating and organizing the struggle for Negro democratic rights, and helping to build an increasingly unified Negro people's liberation movement.

This relationship will abide during the increasingly sharp struggles which lie ahead. Negro Americans will, of necessity, move towards greater unity and militancy in their struggles against the now resurgent forces of reaction; and more and more they will take their place alongside other labor-progressive democratic movements in our country. Thus will they create an ever expanding need for an effective Negro press which, in turn, will operate still further to strengthen the Negro freedom movement and its alliance with the broad democratic front against fascism.

It is fortunate for the Negro people and for America that this 120th anniversary of the Negro press finds many Negro newspapers emerging into maturity and playing a progressive role in the economic, political and civic life of our country. As Gunnar Myrdal's An American Dilemma found it necessary to report: "The importance of the Negro press for the formation of Negro opinion, for the functioning of all other Negro institutions, for Negro leadership and concerted action generally, is enormous."

See Lemuel

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62 MAR 28 1947

Assails Truman Snub to Powell

President Truman's snub of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell drew the [illegible] yesterday of Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, who saw it as "[illegible] an insult to the Negro people of Harlem."

HAZEL SCOTT REP. POWELL

Engraved invitations had gone out last week to every member of the 80th Congress except Powell to attend a White House reception.

In Washington and New York the incident was seen as Truman's way of getting even with Powell, who had previously referred to Mrs. Truman as "the last lady of the land." Powell's statement came when Mrs. Truman accepted an invitation from the Daughters of the American Revolution to be guest of honor at a tea.

The DAR had just barred Hazel Scott, pianist and wife of the Congressman, from giving a recital in Constitution Hall.

When Virginia Gardner, reporter for the People's Voice, called the White House about the matter, Eben Ayers, assistant Presidential adviser, told her, "The Congressman was not invited. We have no comment."

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Powell Suffers Second Heart Attack

Congressman A. Clayton Powell collapsed yesterday of a heart attack traveling to his Long Island home. It was the second attack the Harlem Congressman has suffered in recent months. He was taken to Dr. Keller's hospital at West Hampton Beach, L. I.

Powell, against the advice of his doctor, recently appeared before the Military Affairs Committee in Washington to oppose the National Military Bill. The trip and his work as pastor of the Abyssinian Church here is believed to have taxed his strength.

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63 JUL 23 1947

Let's Unite and Fight:

Puerto Ricans Tell Negroes

(This is the last of a series of articles describing New York's fast-growing Puerto Rican community.)

By LANCE JEFFERS

What does America mean to Puerto Ricans? They came here to escape starvation, disease and death at an early age in a land where most of their people work on American-owned sugar estates for $3.85 a week four months a year and are unemployed the rest of the year; where American "company-store" prices are 40 percent higher than they are in New York; where TB cuts down 120,000 human beings every year out of a population of 2,000,000; where few people live beyond the age of 45.

They come to New York—2,000 every month—to find themselves regarded with disdain because they are a Hispano—Negroid people; shoved into already overcrowded ghettoes; handed the dirtiest and lowest-paid jobs, or no jobs at all; bombarded with demands that they "Americanize" themselves by giving up their native tongue and culture.

How does an American future look to Puerto Ricans?

First of all, the overwhelming majority of Puerto Ricans in this country do not see their future confined to America, even though they make a far better living here than in their homeland. Puerto Ricans intend that Puerto Rico shall one day be free and that then they will return to Puerto Rico as Puerto Rican citizens. They believe that when their country is free, a man will be able to provide a good living for his family from the rich Puerto Rican soil.

As long as they are here, they will cherish and develop their customs, the culture they brought from their homeland.

But Puerto Ricans are participating in American political life.

In Lower Harlem their chief political weapon is the Frente Unido, or United Front. The United Front is a confederation of 22 Lower Harlem organizations which have combined on the basis of a common program. Each organization retains its independence.

A few of the organizations in the United Front are the American Labor Party, Puerto Rican Independence Party, Puerto Rican Nationalist Party, Communist Party, Progressive Citizens of America, Spanish Workers Club, etc.

The program of the United Front includes: anti-lynching law, anti-poll tax law, veterans housing, rent control, price control, an independent Puerto Rico. It also advocates higher relief and landlord repairs.

President of the United Front is Clemente Soto Velez, released last year from a Federal prison, where he spent five years for his activities for Puerto Rican independence. Soto Velez advocates Negro-Puerto Rican collaboration as the most effective means of solving the problems both groups face.

Said Soto Velez: "If there were only the same unity between the leadership of the Negro and Puerto Rican peoples as there is among the rank and file. In the rank and file of our peoples there is understanding and comradeship which comes from common persecution. And that rank and file unity has great potentiality—think of what our two great peoples could do fighting as one for the rights of the Negro in America and the independence of Puerto Rico, as well as the rights of the Puerto Rican people.

But, unfortunately, there [illegible] to be this understanding [illegible] certain of the leaders of [illegible] ples—and often where there [illegible] misunderstanding among the lead[illegible] it is only words, but no acti[illegible]

Soto Velez pointed out, [illegible] that conservative Puerto [illegible] politicians, such as Taliaferro [illegible] Valle and Israel Davila are [illegible] to capitalize on the lack of [illegible] between Puerto Rican and [illegible] leaders. Del Valle and [illegible] claim that Negro leaders are not interested in Puerto Rican problems, but only in Negro problems. Soto Valez declares that these conservative Puerto Rican leaders are building up a huge following in Lower Harlem.

"Unless we move quickly to solidify the unity between [illegible] peoples, these politicians may succeed in splitting us apart. We must achieve this unity, because [illegible] time, it is difficult to oppress [illegible] whereas if we are apart, it [illegible] It is up to the leadership [illegible] Puerto Rican and Negro [illegible] to forge a steel bond between [illegible] which no evil men, no matter [illegible], will be able to break."

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What's Happening to "Peoples Voice"?

By Doxey A. Wilkerson

Formerly Editor of "The People's Voice," member of the National Committee of the Communist Party

WHEN A FORMERLY militant and progressive Negro newspaper lauds the demagogic spokesman of American imperialism, cringes before the red-baiters, and plays "Uncle Tom" to price-gougers in Harlem, the Negro people and their labor-progressive allies have good cause to be disturbed. This, unfortunately, is the editorial path down which The People's Voice has been moving in recent months.

ONCE A FIGHTING "PEOPLE'S PAPER"

The initial appearance of The People's Voice, a Harlem weekly newspaper founded nearly six years ago, marked a new development in the field of Negro journalism. Here was a genuine "people's paper," militantly fighting for the rights of the Negro people and of organized labor. Proud of its slogan, "We Cannot Be Bought—We Will Not Be Sold," PV did not hesitate to challenge the powerful business and political forces of anti-Negro reaction, even at the loss of advertising and other income.

This was The People's Voice of old, whose growing influence and prestige served to mobilize and guide the Negro people in vigorous struggles for full democratic rights, and to strengthen their ties with progressive allies in the white population. Its average audited (A.B.C.) circulation rose to nearly 30,000; and it merited and won the good will and support of ever increasing friends of democracy in America.

But that PV has just about ceased to exist. Its three main columnists—Paul Robeson, Lena Horne and W. E. B. DuBois—still write as fearless and consistent champions of progress. But the editorial policy of THE PEOPLE'S VOICE of today is moving along quite a different path—one which can lead only to the betrayal of the basic interests of the Negro people and the alienation of its progressive white and Negro readers. At the end of that path lies either death for the publication, or its frank and open service to the cause of reaction.

A few illustrations of PV's current editorial policy should suffice to make this development clear.

I

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S demagogic speech before the N.A.A.C.P. Convention several months ago was hailed by The People's Voice (July 12) with paeans of praise. His high - sounding platitudes, which included not even one promise of definite action to protect Negro democratic rights, were greeted by PV with unqualified editorial approval.

There was a time when The People's Voice would have cautioned the Negro people against illusions based on vague generalities uttered by a politician seeking re-election, when its editorial message would have been: "Let us not be misled. We will have to fight for whatever rights we obtain, united among ourselves and with our labor-progressive allies. We cannot rely upon the benevolence of a President who dares not even speak out to condemn the lynchers of our people, and who is now the willing servant of Wall Street imperialism."

But the PV of today is obviously trying to act as cheer-leader for the author of the "Truman Doctrine," a fact made further evident by the lead editorial in the current (Dec. 20) issue. The editors attack Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt for opposing the Soviet proposal to have the United Nations declare violence against racial and religious minorities a crime punishable by law. Then they make this astounding and false assertion:

"Her position is diametrically opposed to that of our present President who has repeatedly urged the Congress to adopt legislation that would outlaw the poll tax, to make lynchings a crime, and to create a fair employment practice act."

Perhaps the editors of The People's Voice have simply been

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taken-in by President Truman's sweet and hollow phrases. Or could it be that they are trying to prepare a place for PV on the lucrative band-wagon of the Democratic Party?

II

JUST RECENTLY (Nov. 22) The People's Voice issued a new policy declaration, heralded by a five-column front page streamer: "PV Announces New Policy. This new statement of policy consists of a series of innocuous generalizations, tucked away among which is this really important message the editors want to get across:

"Politically, The People's Voice is non-partisan. It is neither controlled by nor allied to any political party."

At first glance, one interprets this as reaffirmation of the non-partisan policy which PV announced in 1942 and adhered to in succeeding years, a policy of resolution defense of the Negro people against their oppressors, with no regard to narrow partisan statements. Viewed abstractly, there is nothing here with which anyone could justly quarrel.

On second thought, however, one begins to see that there is something "new" in this non-partisan policy declaration, after all. Interpreted in the context of the current hysterical drive against all progressives under the guise of fighting the so-called "communist menace," the above statements could mean, and are intended to mean, only one thing—that PV is cowering before the witchhunters, proclaiming to all and sundry: "Our political skirts are clean."

There was a time when the People's Voice disdained to retreat in the face of red-baiting; when, indeed, its editorial voice was raised more clearly than that of any other Negro publication to expose and condemn the reactionary political forces which press their attacks upon the people's liberties behind the smoke-screen of "anti-communism."

But the PV of today is obviously trying to make its peace with the red-baiting enemies of the Negro people and of all that is democratic in American life. Its new "non-partisanship" means the newspaper is now giving up the struggle.

Continued Tomorrow

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FIVE

What's Happening to People's Voice

By Doxie Wilkerson

(Conclusion)

What the new accommodating role of The People's Voice entails for the Negro freedom struggle is revealed by PV's attitude toward the vital consumer movement now emerging in Harlem.

Several Negro consumer groups are waging a militant campaign against the excessively high prices which many 125th St. merchants charge for goods of inferior quality. Their program includes public meetings, price-watchers in stores, delegations to offending merchants, and picket-line demonstrations; and they have the support of most Harlem newspapers, social agencies, sororities, labor groups and church organizations, including the influential Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York.

Just as the offending merchants were beginning to squirm under this organized consumer pressure during the pre-Christmas shopping season. The People's Voice came forward to their rescue. In the same issue which carries the new "Statement of Policy," PV published a full-column editorial entitled, "Let's Use Reason." It cautions strongly against the use of picket-lines, and urges leaders of the consumer movement to call off their militant struggle and to put their trust in peaceful negotiations with (of all things!) the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, which has long been notorious as chief spokesman for the real estate and big business interests which prey upon the Harlem community.

There was a time when The People's Voice would have been in the very forefront of this militant consumer movement, fighting hard to protect the people of Harlem against the special exploitation to which they have long been subjected by many of the shops along 125th St.

But the VP of today assumes a different role. It kow-tows disgustingly to the price-gougers, in an obvious bid for advertising favors.

Many long-time friends of PV have recently asked the question: "What's happening to The People's Voice?" Here is their answer:

The People's Voice is being transformed, from the crusading people's paper it used to be into a splashy commercial sheet which plays down or ignores the main political issues of this period, and seeks to bolster its seriously declining circulation through constant resort to the vulgar sensationalism of the Hearst press, which carries favor of the exploiters of the Negro people, and makes repeated overtures to political reaction.

THE PATH AHEAD

During the period ahead, The People's Voice may still try to wear as a mask the reputation inherited from its progress past; but so long as its current policy is maintained, the newspaper will be forced to move closer and closer toward the camp of the main enemies of democracy in America. This perspective is inherent in the logic of PV's present course of development and its increasingly grave financial difficulties.

The People's Voice never was a money-making enterprise, either in fact, or until recently, in avowed purpose. Indeed, as is true with so many non-commercial agencies primarily devoted to struggle for the people's cause, PV generally ran a deficit.

The change in editorial policy which was effected last summer—and which was accompanied by extensive changes in editorial personnel—was apparently dictated in large part by the publishers' determination to make the newspaper a "successful business enterprise." It was thought that PV's circulation and advertising income could be substantially increased through a policy of giving much less attention to political issues, emphasizing sensational crime and scandal news, and avoiding editorial conflicts with conservative groups of influence in the community. As is characteristic of the commercial press generally, PV's editorial policy was to be subordinated to what was considered "good business."

But this new policy has not paid off as was expected. Very many liberal and progressive readers who used to buy The People's Voice because it was "different" have now become disgusted with what they term "another scandal sheet," and have withdrawn their support. Moreover, the changed policy has not sufficed to build a new line among readers who go in for sordid sensationalism, but whose needs along this line are already well supplied by other publications.

Thus, The People's Voice is faced with an increasingly grave financial problem, which threatens its very existence. In this situation the newspaper has but few alternatives:

1. PV could try to rebuild its shattered reputation along genuinely progressive lines, reconverting to the fighting people's paper it started out to be—for which there is still need, and which could be developed into a self-supporting enterprise. But it is clear that the newspaper's policy-makers would now reject any such proposal.

2. PV might try, without any real change in its new orientation, to trade upon its progressive past as a basis for continued financial assistance from the labor-progressive friends of the Negro freedom movement. But attempts along this line have already failed; and they will continue to fail, because it is all too evident that the newspaper's primary interest is becoming something other than the democratic struggle of the Negro people and their allies.

3. PV might persist along its present path, still hoping thereby to become a "successful business." But the market for this type of newspaper is already glutted. There is little or no chance that the publication can now be built into a profit-making enterprise on this basis.

4. PV might—indeed, will be forced—to seek financial aid from those covert reactionary enemies of the Negro people who are the open red-baiting foes of the labor-progressive movement generally. Along this line, as PV's publishers have probably already had occasion to learn, there is very little opportunities. In this period of aggressive imperialist reaction, especially with a national election in the offing, there is big money available for a Negro newspaper which is willing to play ball with certain forces which, to say the least, have never distinguished themselves as true friends of the Negro people.

Thus, if The People's Voice continues along its present course of development, it will have to align itself more and more with precisely those reactionary forces which the PV of old used to fight. There is no other solution for its grave financial problem.

It follows, of course, that in return for necessary and continuing financial subsidies, The People's Voice will have to perform a service for its new allies; and the nature of that service is already becoming apparent. PV will become increasingly an instrument which seeks to disrupt militant and progressive movement among the Negro people, and to sever the growing alliance between the Negro freedom movement and the broader labor-progressive movement against imperialist reaction and war. This, unfortunately, is the path which now seems to lie ahead for The People's Voice.

52 JAN 7 1948

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This is a clipping from
Page 9 of the
DAILY WORKER

Date 12-19-47
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FLR 8

EDITORIALS

An Unprincipled Attack

THROUGH the columns of the Daily Worker, an attack has been launched against The People's Voice. This attack, written by Mr. Doxey Wilkerson until recently the Editor of PV, is reported elsewhere in this issue.

The People's Voice on its record, past and present, does not need to defend itself against attacks of this nature. We publish again our statement of policy, and we know that the public will support us on that statement and on our adherence to it.

We are confident that there will be general agreement that this attack on the People's Voice, a militant defender of the Negro people, is disgraceful and that it serves to reveal to the public the true measure of the individuals responsible for it.

Mr. Wilkerson's comments on the People's Voice are so clearly untrue and give such unmistakable evidence of vindictiveness and personal spite, that we could very well close this statement here.

There is, however, another aspect to be considered. Mr. Wilkerson writes as a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. The Daily Worker, organ of that party, has given considerable space to his attack on the People's Voice. We regard Mr. Wilkerson's attack on this paper as irresponsible and unprincipled and we denounce it for what it is and for whatever it represents.

This is a clipping from Page 19 of the PEOPLES VOICE

Date December 27 1947

Clipped at the Seat of Government

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EX-106 76 JAN 15 1948

55 JAN 20 1948

Daily Worker Publishes Attack on People's Voice

An attack on the People's Voice was launched last week by Doxey A. Wilkerson, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, in two signed articles which appeared in the Daily Worker, official Communist organ, last Thursday and Friday. Discharged as editor of PV last July 1 by its board of directors, Wilkerson was particularly critical of a statement of PV's policy in its issue of November 22, 1947. That statement announced a non-partisan editorial policy for the People's Voice. Wilkerson termed the policy statement "a series of innocuous generalizations," and charged that it represented "cringing before the red-baiters."

Wilkerson singled out the following two sentences from the statement: "Politically, the People's Voice is non-partisan. It is neither controlled by nor allied to any political party."

The former editor of the People's Voice deliberately omitted the succeeding sentence, which read: "PV, now and in the future, will base its editorial policies on open, honest examination of issues and men, rather than upon narrow, partisan considerations."

In his Daily Worker articles Wilkerson charged that PV "lauds the demagogic spokesman of American imperialism, cringes before the red-baiters and plays 'Uncle Tom' to price gougers in Harlem."

"The publishers thought that PV's circulation and advertising income could be substantially increased through a policy of giving much less attention to political issues, emphasizing sensational crime nad scandal news, and avoiding editorial conflicts with conservative groups of influence in the community," Wilkerson wrote.

In singling out the December 20 issue as proof of the above charge, Wilkerson overlooked these lines, all of which appeared on the front page of that issue:

"Mississippi to Defy Supreme Court," "US Joins Fight on Covenants," "Tenants Fight Housing Oeal," and 'Jimcro Churches Under Attack." Its two editorials in that same issue criticised the United States for voting against a Soviet proposal in the U.N. to make religious and racial discrimination a punishable crime, and hailed the victory of Eddie (Buster) Patton before the Supreme Court. Despite such headlines and editorials, Wilkerson constuded that PV "is just another scandal sheet from which many liberals and progressives have withdrawn their support."

A glance through issues of PV edited by Doxey Wilkerson during his administration revealed the following headlines:

February 8, 1947—"Willie Bryant Caught in Newspaper Racket," "Eckstine Indicted on Morals Count." May 10, 1947—"Hubby Beat Me, Mrs. Rocco Says." February 1—"Wife Jailed: Louis Jordan Badly Knifed." June 14—"Rape Charge Doubted," "Loser In Love, Vet Kills Self." June 28 (his last issue), "Sister Tharpe's No Thief, Says Judge," "Leader Escapes Theft Charge."

Wilkerson, who had been the general manager and editor of the People's Voice for two years, was discharged by its board of directors.

A spokesman for PV's board of directors characterized Wilkerson's attack as "vindictive statements of a disgruntled former employe of the paper who was discharged for his journalistic failure and business and administrative inefficiency."

"He failed to carry out the policy of the paper as laid down by the board," the spokesman continued "and was held to be responsible for declining circulation of the paper. He was generally un-cooperative."

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Date December 27 1947

Clipped at the Seat of Government

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JAN 17 1948

52 JAN 27 1948

PV Rides the Red-Baiting Wave

THE NEGRO PEOPLE and their supporters will be shocked at the main front-page headline in last week's Peoples Voice, which declared "Communist Attack on PV Launched." Editorial comment in the issue followed in the same vein.

Its unmistakable essence was red-baiting, an attempt to ride the crest of the anti-Communist wave which reaction is attempting to develop among the Negro people.

The occasion of PV's new line of behavious was a series of two articles published in the Daily Worker by Doxey Wilkerson, Negro educator, journalist and member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. Wilkerson charged in his articles that instead of being the fighting backbone of the Negro people's struggle against the exorbitant high cost of living, PV was seeking to undermine the militant Harlem consumer movement. Further, Wilkerson stated that, instead of putting up a fight against President Truman, the man who, together with Republican treachery, killed FEPC, sidetracked the anti-lynch bill, and double-crossed FDR's policy in behalf of Negroes and other minorities, PV is now trying to sell Truman to Harlem as the "militant champion" of Negro rights, using Truman's demagogy as bait.

Serious Answer Needed

The record of the Daily Worker and its supporters in the fight for the free and equal citizenship of the Negro people constitutes one of the brightest pages in the history of American democracy. Therefore, such serious charges published in its columns should have been met by an equally serious answer on the part of PV, its publisher and owner Dr. Max Yergan.

Instead, the real and well-substantiated charges of Wilkerson were evaded, leaving the Negro people and their supporters with a striking confirmation of those charges.

In publishing the Wilkerson articles, the Daily Worker performed a service by exposing the fact that PV, once a staunchly progressive voice, has apparently embarked upon a course which is destructive of the best interests and unity of the Negro people.

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71 JAN 14 1948

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This is a clipping from Page 9 of the DAILY WORKER

Date 1-1-48

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51 JAN 28 1948

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Powell Calls 125 Street Picket Campaign Phony

The campaign now being conducted by the Consumers Protective Council against 125 st merchants because of allegedly unfair prices and merchandising methods, was attacked by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, jr. as a "phony", at a mass meeting at the Golden Gate Ballroom, Sunday afternoon.

Powell, making his first public appearance since his illness last May, announced to an audience of some 1,500 that he was "back in shape and ready to fight on all fronts."

The colorful representative for New York's 22nd District struck out vigorously at the 125 st picket campaign. "It is a phony," he asserted, "because the man running it is willing to withdraw his pickets if you promise to advertise in a certain newspaper."

Powell promised to personally direct a picket line on 125 st, but his purpose, he said, would be to "win jobs for Negroes."

A top brewing company, he revealed, would agree after negotiations with officials of the People's Committee to hire Negro salesmen and perhaps some clerical workers. He also predicted that New York's largest dairy company would have Negro drivers on some of its trucks by June 1.

The preacher-congressman announced that the People's Committee of which he is chairman has scheduled conferences with Rheingold Brewery, Silver Cup Bread Co and the Sheffield Milk Company.

"We intend to get jobs in all companies doing business in Harlem immediately," he declared, adding, "if these conferences do not guarantee immediate employment for Negro men and women in capacities, we will establish picket lines and boycott every store in Harlem doing business with them."

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48 JAN 20 1948

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EX-98

This is a clipping from Page 2 of the PEOPLES VOICE

Date January 10, 1948
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54
62 FEB 6 1948

Mr. Tolson
Mr. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

Rep. A. Clayton Powell Hints He Won't Run for Re-Election

By Abner W. Berry

Congressman A. Clayton Powell (D-ALP-NY) in an interview with the Daily Worker Saturday, hinted that he might not run to succeed himself this year. Rep. Powell, the first Negro to represent New York in Congress, said he was "against Truman" and for a third party in 1952 "if the Democratic and Republican parties let the people down this year."

We interviewed him in the office of the Abyssinia Baptist Church, in Harlem, of which the Congressman is pastor. Written questions were submitted by this reporter. Rep. Powell answered in his own handwriting. The questions and answers follow:

Q. Are you definitely breaking with the Democratic Party?

A. I am against Truman UNLESS the Republican candidate is worse.

Q. Will you run for Congress in 1948?

A. I will run if there is a likelihood of a political hack being forced on the people by either party. (The Congressman did not enlarge on this, but it seemed implicit that he would retire in favor of a progressive candidate.)

Q. As a candidate, would you split endorsements as between the Presidential candidate and local candidates endorsed by independents?

A. Yes.

Q. Would you support state and Congressional candidates endorsed by Wallace followers?

A. Not necessarily.

Q. Would you accept third party support in view of your Jan. 4 speech? (On Jan. 4, Rep. Powell had called Wallace's candidacy "unwise" and announced his support of Eisenhower as the Republican candidate.)

A. Gladly, as in the past.

Q. What possibility has Eisenhower of securing the GOP nomination?

A. I don't know.

Q. Would you support the GOP ticket from top to bottom if Eisenhower won nomination?

A. No. Only progressives.

Q. What differences do you have with the Amsterdam News and the Consumers Protective League? (The Congressman had criticized both groups in his Jan. 4 speech.)

A. No comment.

Q. Are you opposed to a third party in principle?

A. No.

Q. In your opinion, under what conditions could a third party successfully be developed?

A. If the Republican and Democrat parties let the people down this year, then build a third party for '52.

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71 JAN 21 1948

EX-1

This is a clipping from Page 7 of the DAILY WORKER

Date 1-13-48

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62 JAN 29 1948

The WAY I SEE IT

BY NELL DODSON RUSSELL

Interesting things keep happening on the People's Voice newspaper in Harlem. The latest is the withdrawal of Lena Horne and Paul Robeson as columnists. According to an item in a syndicated column by Victor Riesel, Horne withdrew after a column under her by-line in the PV came out with this bit: "Well, Henry Wallace has gone and done it again. He's thrown his wonderful unpretentious mid-western hat into the 1948 presidential ring." According to the column, Lena wrote that this had "special meaning for Negroes." The next day, Riesel reported, Lena wrote the editor: "Inasmuch as I have made no decision on this issue and this indorsement was not authorized by me and was without my knowledge, I hereby withdraw permission for use of my name as a columnist in the People's Voice, effective immediately."

NELL RUSSELL

The history of the People's Voice is a tumultuous one. There has recently been a "reorganization" with the left of center crowd severed from the payroll. Some folks think there is more to it than meets the eye, but these are suspicious times. Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, with Charles Buchanan, manager of the famed Savoy ballroom, was one of the two men to start People's Voice. Powell is no longer with the paper. Buchanan is still connected with the publication, but he always was concerned more with the financial side rather than policy-making.

I was one of the original staff when PV came into existence in the winter of 1942. For days, Rev. Powell and St. Clair Bourne, one of the country's ace newsmen, interviewed newspaper people. Bourne left the staff of the Amsterdam News to take over the managing editor spot on the new publication. Powell, at that time, was riding the crest of the wave in Harlem. The final editorial selections were as follows:

John Louis Clark, city editor; Ann Petry, author of "The Street," woman's editor; Joe Bostic, New York's only Negro sports announcer, sports editor; Ollie Harrington, Yale man and creator of the "Bootsie" cartoon, art editor. I had the theatrical editor job.

Our first office was a store front location on 142nd street and Lenox avenue in the Golden Gate ballroom building. The space was pitifully inadequate, the location bad, the heating plant stubborn. Half of the time we worked under wraps, gulping paper cartons of hot coffee to keep warm. Nobody minded. We stumbled over each other's feet, cussed our own clumsiness, told corny jokes, worked like beavers.

The night the first edition came out, Charlie Buchanan gave us a party in the ornate lobby of the Golden Gate. There was champagne, scotch, rye and a mad gathering of newspaper people from rival publications. Our baby was a tabloid, one of the first in the Negro press. It was cleanly printed, full of life and originality.

Rumors flew around town, uptown, downtown, in the Village. We were being set up in the PM composing room and run off on the PM presses, so the grapevine whispered the wealthy Marshall Field was our backer.

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

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People's Voice Bureau

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Minneapolis Spokesman
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The paper sprang up like Jack's beanstalk. In a few weeks, we moved from the store front to an office in the heart of Harlem, on 125th street and Seventh avenue. The staff was enlarged, the circulation printed. Then something happened. They said it was because the baby grew out of its three-cornered pants too fast. I left New York to spend my vacation with my husband at his army camp. When I came back, the bottom had fallen out of everything. Salaries had stopped, everything had stopped. We managed to keep enough of a sheet on the street so that we wouldn't lose our postal mailing privileges. The editorial staff emptied its collective jeans and operated on a share-the-wealth plan. No one quit or mentioned quitting.

Things started functioning again as suddenly as they had stopped. A new five-man board took over the reins and handed out our back pay. Charlie Buchanan made protesting noises as he always does when he has to pay anything out. We laughed and told more corny jokes. We wouldn't have been so flippant if we'd known what was coming.

A lady general manager was brought in. She distinguished herself by firing five people in order to effect "economies." Reducing operating efficiency by firing capable people while the money pours out of various and sundry other leaks, has never been my idea of economy. Ann Petry was one of the five ousted. Artist Ed Brandford, who now has the Brandford model agency in downtown New York, was another. The result was a succession of battles between the lady manager and the New York newspaper guild. There couldn't have been any more fuss and fury if someone had deliberately been planted to wreck the sheet. People were either getting fired or were quitting. A revolving door would have made it much easier.

The deluge really came when St. Clair Bourne went home ill one Monday noon. The lady manager promptly fired him via special delivery Tuesday morning. The city editor, who by this time was S. W. Garlington, took to his bed on Tuesday. The paper had to go to press on Wednesday.

The lady manager called me into her office and said we were going to have to get the paper out. She said "we," but she was looking at me. For the next twelve hours, I wrote news copy, rewrote news copy, edited news copy, fell flat on my face three times and was relieved on the firing line by sports editor Bostic. We finished laying out the last page at 3 a.m. I don't know how long this went on but it was long enough. If you think putting out a big tabloid newspaper is easy, just try it once, my friend, just once. On another occasion, I had the same job dumped unceremoniously into my lap for a number of weeks. My friends started walking around with signs: "Want a newspaper put out? Call Nell Dodson Russell. Are you stuck? Call Nell Dodson Russell."

The situation got more and more—shall we say, grim? It got grimmest of all when a gentleman by the name of Doxey Wilkerson was brought in as general manager. Mr. Wilkerson, a charming and intelligent gentleman, has for quite a few years been friendly to communism. Mr. Wilkerson's political preferences are his business. My political preferences are my business. What I write as a news reporter is objective with no preferences one way or the other. What I wrote as a columnist is subjective and personalized. When somebody starts tinkering with what I think, we are going a couple of fast rounds. Disagree with me violently if you want to, but don't keep me from saying it. If Wilkerson wanted to get out the blue pencil on the news copy, that was one thing. Juggling my stuff around was something else. One day I marched myself into Mr. Wilkerson's office and told him about the same thing I've just written here. In went my resignation, out went Russell. I left Joe Bostic as the lone remaining member of the editorial staff that started PV off with such high hopes.

He's now on the Amsterdam News sports staff.

notations on top page

Minneapolis Spokesman
1-30-48 p. 2

Rep. Powell Urges Negroes to Unite For Civil Rights

Representative Adam Clayton Powell, jr., (D., N. Y.) yesterday urged all Negroes to stand together behind President Truman's civil rights program to eliminate conditions in Washington which make it "a cesspool of the worst elements of our democracy."

Powell, speaking before nearly 200 delegates at a meeting of the South Legislative Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at Howard University, praised the recent showing of Southern Negroes at the polls.

The Negro vote there has become a continuing threat to Southern Congressmen, he said—especially in parts of Texas, where 20,000 Negroes voted last fall in Houston.

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65 APR 26 1948

EX-39

This clipping is from Page 17 of the Washington Post 4-2-48

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MAY 4-1948

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Powell Blasts Mirror Lie He Endorsed Truman

Representative Adam Clayton Powell of Harlem yesterday gave the lie to a Daily Mirror story which said he had decided to back President Truman and that he had declared political warfare on Rep. Vito Marcantonio, chairman of the American Labor Party.

The Mirror story had stated it had "learned exclusively" that Powell "will not back Henry Wallace for President." Powell, however, declared yesterday, "I have not decided as yet whether to support Truman, Wallace or Dewey."

Powell

"Marcantonio and I are as friendly today as we have ever been," the Harlem Democratic Congressman added. "While it is true that we have differed from time to time and probably will continue to do so, nevertheless, Marcantonio and I are friends and, in showdown fights for the rights of people, we will undoubtedly in most of the cases be allied.

"I am a Democrat and Marcantonio is a member of the ALP but that does not make us enemies anymore than my being a Negro and a Protestant and his being a white man and a Catholic does."

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This is a clipping from Page 7 of the Daily Worker

Date 9-2-48

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52 SEP 1 1948

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Adam C. Powell

Powell to Introduce Civil Rights Bills In New Congress

Congressman Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY) yesterday declared he would introduce civil rights legislation in the 81st Congress, and also introduce a bill to abolish the Taft-Hartley Act. Powell, was re-elected Tuesday to his third term from Harlem's 22nd Congressional District.

"I will re-introduce," Powell declared, "all of my civil rights legislation which became the Truman civil rights program." The Harlem Congressman, is "the author of legislation for civil rights, against the poll tax, for FEPC, anti-lynch law, franchise for the District of Columbia, an end to Jimcrow in interstate transportation, an end to Army Jimcrow, and for the abolition of discrimination in the federal school lunch program.

A ranking member of the House Labor and Education Committee, declared he would also introduce legislation for the federal control and licensing of all polls taken either by individuals or groups.

Powell will leave for the West Indies to study labor conditions there.

G. I. R. -2

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NOT RECORDED

47 DEC 6 1948

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This is a clipping from
Page 3 of the
Daily Worker

Date 11-5-48
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62 DEC 10 1948

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ROBESON AS SPEAKER FOR NEGROES DENIED

file

The Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., member of Congress from the Twenty-second district and pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, said yesterday that "by no stretch of the imagination" was Paul Robeson qualified to speak for all Negroes in the United States.

Referring to a speech made by Mr. Robeson before the World Congress of the Partisans of Peace in Paris, in which the singer was said to have asserted that American Negroes would never fight against the Soviet Union, Mr. Powell declared:

"In the event of war at any time against any one we will do our part, in so far as it does not conflict with our individual religious beliefs or conscience."

Summarizing the "general feelings of most of the Negro masses, including myself," he added:

"We are Americans. We are against any type of aggressive war on our part or any other nation. We are going to keep on fighting to our very fullest—short of nonviolent action—to obtain in America everything that God and the Bill of Rights ordained that we should have, and in the hour of crisis we will be loyal to our nation, reserving the right, however, to criticize constructively as we did in World War I and World War II."

Mr. Powell read his statement at all services in his church yesterday and announced that he would deliver it before Congress tomorrow.

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53 MAY 24 1949

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61 MAY 24 1949

This is a clipping from page 16 of the New York Times for April 25, 1949
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

2 Negro Leaders Assail Robeson's Paris Stand

Two important Negro leaders today joined Walter White, president of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, in denouncing Paul Robeson for having declared at the Communist-staged so-called peace conference in Paris that American Negroes would not fight for the United States in a war with Russia.

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. and Dr. Max Yergan, former head of the Council of African Affairs, both termed Mr. Robeson's statement un-American. They insisted, as did Mr. White, that Mr. Robeson spoke only for himself and not for the Negroes of America.

While declaring he also could not speak for American Negroes, Mr. Powell, who is pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, said their general feelings could be summed up thus:

"In the event of war, at any time, against any one, we will do our part, in so far as it does not conflict with our individual religious belief or conscience. In the hour of crisis we will be loyal to our nation, reserving the right, however, to criticize constructively as we did in World War I and World War II."

Mr. Powell said he read his statement in his sermon yesterday and would read it again tomorrow before Congress.

G.I.R.-7

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N.Y. World Telegram

DATED APR 25 1949

FORWARDED BY N.Y. DIVISION

56 JUL 1 1949

Harlem Drive On to Unseat Rep. Powell

By RAY GHENT,
Staff Writer.

Opposition to Rep. Adam Clayton Powell's continuance in Congress is being spelled out in Harlem Democratic circles with the return of Herbert L. Bruce to the political wars.

Mr. Bruce, at one time one of the most influential Tammany leaders in Harlem, has opened a new headquarters, the Crusader Democratic Club, 720 St. Nicholas Ave. He is organizing throughout the Powell Congressional District.

Criticism of Mr. Powell is particularly strong at this time because of his recent vote against strengthening the anti-espionage laws. He and Rep. Vito Marcantonio, leftist American Laborite, were the only two members of the House against this measure.

Strong Foe Sought.

It is known that Murray Baron, Liberal party county chairman, has been seeking a strong candidate against Mr. Powell.

Councilman Earl Brown, who with Democratic-Republican-Liberal backing, defeated the entrenched Communist Councilman Benjamin J. Davis Jr. last year, has been proposed by some as a coalition choice against Rep. Powell.

Republicans, including Secretary of State Thomas J. Curran, county leader, have hinted they might support a Democrat in the 12th District against Mr. Marcantonio in return for support of a Republican in the 22nd against Mr. Powell.

Bruce Not Committed.

Among the Democrats, Mr. Bruce never has made any secret of his opposition to Rep. Powell. He said he was not committed to any particular candidate at this time. Asked about reports that he would support Walter F. White, executive secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, he said he admired Mr. White's ability and thought he would make a good Congressman.

Mr. Bruce was the first Negro ever elected a Tammany district leader. He fought the Wigwam influence of Clarence H. Neal and was deposed five years ago when his district, the 12th AD, was cut into three parts. In 1948 Mr. Bruce was a principal organizer of the Harlem rally for President Truman on his [illegible]

file

Mr. T
Mr. L
Mr. Clayton
Mr. Clavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

9-1

POWELL TO DECLINE A. L. P. NOMINATION

Representative Bows to Edict of Tammany Head and Will Be a Democrat Only

By WARREN MOSCOW

The Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., who has been about as far to the "left" politically as any other Representative in Congress with the possible exception of Vito Marcantonio, has decided not to accept renomination by Mr. Marcantonio's American Labor party, it was announced yesterday. Mr. Powell plans to run for a fourth term in Congress in the fall as a straight Tammany Hall Democrat.

The decision was communicated by Mr. Powell to several of the Negro Tammany district leaders in the Harlem area, which he represents. It followed a rule laid down by Tammany Hall leader Carmine G. De Sapio, that no Tammany nomination would go to any office-seeker who did not pledge himself in advance to refuse the nomination, if offered, of the A. L. P., which has been under charges of Communist domination.

Mr. Powell's decision was believed to have been spurred by Mr. De Sapio's ruling that candidates must be either Democratic or A. L. P., but not both. Mr. De Sapio was understood to have told the local leaders that he held them responsible for the actions taken by their candidates.

However, Mr. Powell went yesterday a bit further than requested by Mr. De Sapio. In a formal statement technically dealing only with labor union matters, the former took an additional step in breaking with the political left.

Referring to a criticism of him in the newspaper published by the United Electrical Workers Union—one of the ten unions recently ousted from the Congress of Industrial Organizations for Communist tendencies—Mr. Powell said:

"My position is clear. I insist on the rights of the U. E., the Communist party itself and all other groups to hold and express their opinions, no matter how repugnant, for this is the American way. But so long as falsehood remains their artillery, and so long as their tactics constitute an attack on democratic trade union leadership, I must refuse to have anything more to do with them."

Mr. Powell's complaint against the U. E. organ, he said, was based on a published interview with him. He alleged "falsifying" of his remarks. The interview dealt with his stand on the Fair Employment Practices Commission bill in the House, a revised version of which was passed without Mr. Powell's support.

He charged the U. E. organ with having misquoted him to the effect that the Truman Administration had ordered members of Congress to stop fighting for a real F. E. P. C. bill. He denied this.

Mr. Powell is one of two Democratic Representatives from Manhattan elected in 1948 with American Labor as well as Democratic nominations. The other is Arthur G. Klein from the Lower East Side. It has been taken for granted that Mr. Klein also will decline the A. L. P. nomination in the fall, in accordance with Mr. De Sapio's edict.

[redacted]

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G. I. R. -1

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Internal Security - C

CLIPPING FROM THE

N. Y. Times

DATED MAY 9 1950

FORWARDED TO INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

JUL 12 1950

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Adam Clayton Powell

Budenz Labeled Rep. Powell A Commie, Probers Disclose

Rep. Powell, (D) of New York, was given a wartime reception at a New York gathering where none but Communist party members was present, according to testimony made public yesterday by Senate investigators.

The congressman, a Negro, is known in the House as a follower of Rep. Marcantonio, (A.L.) of New York,, whose consistent following of the Communist party line has been frequently noted. Both are given almost daily praise in the New York Daily Worker, official Communist journal.

Accused by Budenz

Louis F. Budenz, former editor of the Daily Worker, who quit the Communist party in 1946, rejoined the Catholic church and is now a Fordham university professor, named Powell in secret testimony before the Senate foreign relations communism investigating subcommittee.

Powell, said Budenz, was guest of honor at a gathering in the home of Frederick V. Field, wealthy supporter of Communist causes, who refused to answer questions about his Communist party membership on the ground that he might incriminate himself. Paul Robeson, the singer, often accused as a Communist in congressional investigations, was master of ceremonies.

Asked if any non-Communists were present, Budenz said everyone present was a member of the Communist party, to his knowledge.

Offer of List Ignored

The transcript revealed that Budenz offered to submit to the subcommittee a list of Communists in the government, including the State department, if he was given two weeks to prepare it but this offer was never followed up. It is reported that Budenz gave the list to the federal bureau of investigation.

Budenz had named Haldore E. Hanson, State department head of President Truman's point 4 spending program, and Owen Lattimore, State department consultant, as Communists. Sen. McMahon (D) of Connecticut asked him if he could give the names of additional Communists in the State department.

"May I ask the privilege of presenting to this committee such names as I have of Communists in the government, including the State department, within the next two weeks?" asked Budenz.

Praised By McMahon

"If they do exist, we certainly want them," said McMahon, who later remarked of Budenz' co-operation with the FBI that it was "a wonderful thing."

The subcommittee, in its report, however, disregarded the testimony of Budenz, expressing "wonderment" that he had not given the names of Hanson and Lattimore to the FBI at a much earlier date.

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G. I. R. -2

Adam Clayton Powell

File

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76 AUG 19 1950

63 AUG 23 1950

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Page 5

Times-Herald
Wash. Post
Wash. News
Wash. Star
N.Y. Mirror

Date: 7/18/50

"Rep. Adam Powell's New Line"
by Benjamin J. Davis

ENCLOSURE - 126
EX. - 97
NOT RECORDED
44 APR 26 1951

This is a clipping from
Page 7 of the
Daily Worker

Date MAR 15 1951
Clipped at the Seat[redacted]
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50 MAY 2 1951

Rep. Powell's New Line

By Benjamin J. Davis

UNTIL RECENTLY, Rep. Adam Powell was a militant spokesman for Negro rights. He advocated the unity of the Negro people from within, and urged Negro-white solidarity against the forces of reaction and oppression—the only way Negro rights can be defended and extended today.

Now he has adopted a new line. This line has brought manifest disturbance and disappointment to his Harlem constituents, to the Negro people nationally and to fighters for peace and progress everywhere. The members of his own Abyssinian Baptist church—who are predominantly progressive—are raising questions.

On Jan. 24, of this year, Rep. Powell made a speech on the floor of Congress in which he declared that he would introduce no more anti-jimcrow amendments to military appropriation bills. He said, in effect, that he would give up the fight against segregation and discrimination in the armed forces "for the duration" of the war, and leave the matter entirely to the tender mercies of President Truman. That, of course, is like leaving the wolf to watch the sheep.

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THE ESSENCE of the new line, therefore, is an abandonment of the struggle for Negro rights, not only with respect to the armed forces, but also on the political, economic and social fronts. Rep. Powell has taken the path toward ignominious betrayal and treachery against his own people. His deeds since his reelection in 1950 confirm this fact, although he still makes fiery speeches.

Whether or not he will follow this path to its logical end of complete political degeneracy and worthlessness, depends in the first place upon him. Principally, he will have to stiffen his political backbone and stop running from the class enemy like a scared liberal (who can run faster than anyone else).

He should stand his ground and fight—like Paul Robeson, W. E. B. DuBois—and like the young Negro army Captain, Charles Hill who, when he refused to be cowered by the warmongering brass, the redbaiters and Negro haters, forced the War Department to withdraw its redbaiting charges against him.

The most decisive factor with reference to Rep. Powell's future is the Negro people, whose best interests coincide with that of the American workers and people generally, and which he is supposed to represent in Congress.

His new line is a distinct set-

BEN DAVIS

back to his Harlem constituents and to the Negro people nationally. It comes at a time when the white, war-minded ruling class is sharpening lynch terror (the mass murder of the Martinsville seven, the Willie McGee case, the frameup of Lieut. Gilbert) and depressing the living conditions of the Negro people to an unbearable degree.

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WHILE THE NEGRO people are pained by Rep. Powell's new line, they will not pine away with meaningless sorrow in Harlem or anywhere else. They will bounce back, fighting harder than ever for equality, in accordance with their historic political resiliency. The Negro people—workers and sharecroppers, North and South—are burning with readiness to struggle for freedom and peace. Those Negro leaders who misrepresent this dramatically clear sentiment will either have to mend their ways, be repudiated and isolated, or get left in the political ash can.

The basic cause of Rep. Powell's new line is his wholehog swallowing of Wall Street's gangster war against the heroic people of Korea and China, and his servile acceptance of the Wall Street-Truman drive for another world war as being in the interest of world peace and freedom. This is one of the most monstrous deceptions of the Age!

Rep. Powell first clearly announced his 100 percent support of the "white supremacy" war program immediately following his reelection last year, after previously straddling this issue with doubletalk. His subsequent virtual abandoment of the fight for Negro rights flows from his support of the war program.

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IN DISCARDING militant struggles for Negro rights, Rep. Powell, and other such Negro spokesmen of Wall Street, do so in order to avoid "hampering" the so-called "defense" effort, or to keep from embarrassing the "American way of life"—a way of lynch oppression against the Negro people. Apparently, they care not about how the "defense effort" is hampering and embarrassing the Negroes!

Instead of fighting for Negro rights they become virulent warmongers, often outdoing Wall Street and Truman with their lies and slanders against the Soviet Union, the Communists, and the peace forces. They give their blessings to the McCarran and Smith Acts, to the outlawing of the Communist Party and to the jailing of its leaders (two of whom are Negroes), to Truman's brutal persecution of Robeson, DuBois and other militant Negroes—and they stand by, with a lot of radical speeches, while the Negro people become the main targets of reaction's drive toward fascism and mass starvation.

Rep. Powell's new line is a surrender to the powerful reactionary pressures exerted upon him by big business interests, with which he has strong financial, property and political ties, especially through the Democratic Party. Even the venal labor agents of Wall Street—the Murrays, Greens, Reuthers and Dubinskys—have found it necessary to go through the motions of a break with the hunger economic policies of the Truman war drive. Yet Rep. Powell, who pretends to be an independent, meekly goes along with the Truman war Administration, with hardly a murmur, even though it grinds the life out of the Negro people, the worst victims of the war program.

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THE NEGRO PEOPLE of Harlem and nationally have the right to ask Rep. Powell, ar

(Continued on Page 10)

REP. ADAM POWELL'S NEW LINE

(Continued from Page 7)

other Negro warmongers, in what way is the Wall Street-Truman bandit war against the Korean and Chinese people, advancing Negro rights? In what way will another world war, which Wall Street is cooking up, bring freedom to the Negro people?

The drive for such a war is already bringing fascist curtailment of liberty and violent attacks upon living standards—especially among Negro workers and their families. Such a war itself would be ruinous for the country.

Even if such a reactionary war were won by American imperialism—which is impossible—how would that guarantee the freedom of the Negro people, especially when it is clear that American imperialism is spreading "white supremacy" and strife all over the world, not democracy and freedom! How will American imperialism free African-Negroes when it won't free American Negroes! For Rep. Powell to tell the Negro people, as he is doing, that the Wall Street-Truman war drive is benefitting them is the most cruel and criminal political demagogy and deception!

Rep. Powell misread the Harlem election returns last November. The people voted for the Powell of 1950, who stood shoulder to shoulder with the progressive Rep. Vito Marcantonio, and who was a militant fighter for FEPC; they did not vote for the Powell of 1951 who abandoned the fight for Negro rights.

They voted for the Powell of 1948 who wrote in his book "Marching Blacks". "Redbaiting is born of the same womb that conceived anti-Semitism, anti-unionism and jimcrow. They did not vote for the Powell of 1951, who is indulging in irresponsible redbaiting often used against him and always used against the Negro people and their desire for unity and full citizenship.

THE DEMAND for peace is swelling so noticeably among the Negro people that the billionaire warmakers and political reactionaries must now call upon the so-called "best" Negro reformists in a vain attempt to dam the rising tide. Powell is not even permitted to straddle the issue of foreign policy any longer.

The notorious and transparent Negro agents of imperialism like Walter White, Lester Granger, Channing Tobias and others of their "old school" servitors are too exposed to do the job for their Wall Street masters. Wall Street needs a radical-sounding orator who can dress up the "white supremacy" war program so that it sounds like a militant struggle for Negro rights. That's Rep. Powell.

The struggle for peace—to prevent another world war—is decisive in the struggle for Negro rights. Bring our boys back home!—is the heartrending cry of the Negro as well as white Americans, especially in view of MacArthur's jimcrow frameups of Negro soldiers. Talk of saving Willie McGee, freeing Lieut. Gilbert and Rosa Ingram, or of ending the lynch terror against Negroes is empty, even though sincere, unless connected centrally with the struggle to prevent another world war, and to defeat the war program of Wall Street and its lackey Truman.

Talk of peace is hollow and absurd unless it is connected in the first place with peace, with the Soviet Union—whose great land of Socialist brotherhood, equality and security deservedly enjoys very high prestige among the Negro people. The Negro people should repudiate these warmongers—and break through to play their powerful role for peace.

Secondly, there should be a big aggressive offensive of the Negro people, unitedly with their white progressive supporters, for Negro rights. They should wage a big crusade for the passage of civil rights legislation, for an end to police brutality, and for jobs from the warmongering, rich bosses. They should take up the cudgels in a dramatic way for the freedom of the forcibly-imprisoned Negro nation in the South, whose oppression is the source of nationwide white supremacy poison.

Thirdly, the Negro people should smash the unprincipled efforts of the Negro hacks of reaction to keep them chained to the Democratic party, the jail tax wing of the corrupt two-party system. In independent political action through such organizations as the American Labor Party, lies the direction of equality and peace.

Fourth, the great and powerful voice of the Negro people should be heard against the Hitlerite attempts to outlaw the Communist Party and jail its leaders—attempts which are directed especially against all militant fighters for Negro rights. Redbaiting should be rejected as the main weapon of the warmongers, Rankins, Trumans and Dixiecrats to divide and undermine the militant Negro peoples movement.

Now Powell, one of the most influential of the Negro leaders, has adopted a line of surrender to the warmongering enemies of the Negro people. It is clear that the Negro workers and trade unionists—in such organizations as the Harlem Trade Union Council—have the main responsibility for the unity, backbone and militant leadership of the Negro people. All sections of the Negro peoples movement can be won for peace and liberation.

The Communist Party—which is part of the Negro people and has no interests apart from their struggle for freedom—points the way to their liberation. In placing peace as the central issue before the American working class and people, Negro and white, it is making a decisive contribution to the defense of Negro rights and to the liberation of the Negro people. Its defense and growth among the Negro people as well as the workers generally, is the basic guarantee of the victory of peace, Negro liberation and the welfare of the whole American people.

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Nichols
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Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

G.I.R.-8

File 6

(CIVIL RIGHTS)

REP. ADAM C. POWELL, JR. (D-N.Y.) TESTIFIED THAT NEW YORK POLICE COMMISSIONER GEORGE P. MONAGHAN IS A "DISGRACE" TO NEW YORK CITY AND SHOULD BE FIRED IMMEDIATELY.

POWELL TOLD HOUSE INVESTIGATORS THAT MONAGHAN SHOULD BE DISMISSED FOR HIS PART IN KEEPING THE FBI FROM INVESTIGATING ALLEGED NEW YORK POLICE BRUTALITY.

"EVERY DAY THAT HE IS IN OFFICE IS A DISGRACE TO MY TOWN AND A DISGRACE TO OUR COUNTRY," POWELL TOLD A HOUSE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE.

"HE HAS DELIBERATELY LIED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING," POWELL TESTIFIED.

"BOOKMAKING, BETTING, PROSTITUTION . . . ARE RAMPANT IN NEW YORK," POWELL ADDED.

"SOMEBODY IN THE TOP BRASS OF OUR DEPARTMENT IS GETTING PAID OFF."

THE SUBCOMMITTEE, HEADED BY REP. KENNETH B. KEATING (R-N.Y.) IS INVESTIGATING AN AGREEMENT LAST YEAR BETWEEN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND THE NEW YORK POLICE WHICH BARRED THE FBI FROM INVESTIGATING VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS BY THE NEW YORK POLICE.

BEATING OF PRISONERS IS A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS. NORMALLY THE FBI INVESTIGATES ANY SUCH CHARGES.

KEATING SAID THE CHARGE AGAINST THE NEW YORK POLICE AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT "IS ONE OF THE UGLIEST THAT HAS EVER BEEN LEVELED AT PUBLIC OFFICIALS . . ."

2/16--GE1142A

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NOT RECORDED
98 MAR 4 1953

50 MAR 11 1953

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

ADD 1 CIVIL RIGHTS (1249P)

KEATING LAUNCHED AN INVESTIGATION IMMEDIATELY. HE SENT SUB-COMMITTEE COUNSEL ROBERT A. COLLIER TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO CHECK ON THE REPORTED AGREEMENT.

KEATING SAID HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT "POSSIBLE JUSTIFICATION" THERE COULD BE FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

HE SAID HE WOULD TAKE UP THE MATTER AT A CLOSED DOOR SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE LATER TODAY.

HE SAID HE WOULD SEEK TO CALL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT TO TESTIFY.

2/18--GD1255P

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

ADD 2 CIVIL RIGHTS

REP. JACOB K. JAVITS (R-N.Y.) JOINED POWELL IN DEMANDING AN INVESTIGATION AND SAID THAT "SUPPRESSION OF CIVIL RIGHTS" WAS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER."

JAVITS CONTENDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEW YORK POLICE COMMISSIONER, A CONSTITUENT OF JAVITS', HAS "HOTLY DENIED" EXISTENCE OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT.

2/18--GD125P

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

ADD 3 CIVIL RIGHTS

REP. FRANCIS E. DORN (R-N.Y.) TOLD THE SUBCOMMITTEE ONLY "AN EXCEPTIONAL MINORITY" -- HE ESTIMATED IT AT ABOUT ONE PER CENT -- OF THE NEW YORK POLICE FORCE WAS INVOLVED IN THE ALLEGED BRUTALITIES.

"I DON'T CONDONE BRUTALITIES," HE SAID. "BUT IT IS NOT THE GENERAL THING AT ALL. REGARDLESS OF THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE MEN WHO MAKE UP 99 PERCENT OF THE FORCE ARE NOT BRUTES AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE CRITICIZED FOR THE GUILT OF THE ONE PERCENT.

"WE HAVE, OVER-ALL, ONE OF THE FINEST BODY OF MEN IN THE NEW YORK POLICE FORCE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD."

POWELL SAID HE IS NOT SURE DORN'S PERCENTAGES ARE CORRECT BUT THAT HE "HEARTILY CONCURS THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF OUR POLICE ARE DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB."

KEATING SAID THE SUBCOMMITTEE HAS ASKED MAYOR IMPELLITTERI TO SUPPLY ANY RECORDS BEARING ON THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT-NEW YORK POLICE AGREEMENT.

2/19--JE1246P

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

ADD 2 CIVIL RIGHTS

REP. ISIDORE DOLLINGER (D-N.Y.) TESTIFIED THAT ANY OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRYING TO CIRCUMVENT FEDERAL LAWS SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE MADE PUBLIC A JUSTICE DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM, DATED JULY 30, AND SIGNED BY JAMES M. MCINERNEY, FORMER ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO HEADED THE CRIMINAL DIVISION AT THE TIME.

THE MEMORANDUM DIRECTED A. B. CALDWELL, CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION, TO CALL MCINERNEY'S ATTENTION TO ANY "ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS INVOLVING PERSONNEL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN LARGE METROPOLITAN AREAS BEFORE ANY INVESTIGATION IS AUTHORIZED."

THE MEMORANDUM SAID THE ACTION WAS REQUESTED SO "THAT APPROPRIATE STEPS MAY BE TAKEN TO MINIMIZE THE POSSIBLE DELETERIOUS EFFECT ON THE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS DEPARTMENT AND OTHER FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER POLICE AGENCIES."

POWELL AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SOURCES EXPLAINED THAT THE PHRASE "LARGE METROPOLITAN AREAS" REFERRED ACTUALLY ONLY TO NEW YORK.

POWELL SAID THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT RESULTED FROM THE SLAYING IN THE SUMMER OF 1951 OF JOHN DERRICK, A NEGRO VETERAN JUST RETURNED FROM KOREA. HE SAID THIS WAS THE FIRST CASE IN WHICH THE FBI MOVED IN TO INVESTIGATE NEW YORK POLICE.

"MONAGHAN BOILED OVER AT THAT TIME AND SWORE IT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN," POWELL SAID.

POWELL SAID THE DERRICK CASE WAS "WHITEWASHED" BY A GRAND JURY. LATER WHEN "THE BIG BRASS PARADED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY."

THE AGREEMENT WITH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WAS REACHED LAST SUMMER, POWELL SAID, AT A MEETING IN THE OFFICE OF U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY MYLES LANE. IT WAS ATTENDED BY MONAGHAN, CHIEF INSPECTOR CONRAD H. ROTHENGAST, FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FRANK FRISTENSKY, JR., AND MCINERNEY, POWELL SAID.

POWELL SAID THAT AFTER THAT CONFERENCE A MEMORANDUM DATED JULY 30 DESCRIBING THE AGREEMENT WAS PLACED IN THE FILES OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

2/19--GE1225P

Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clayton
Mr. Clavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gearty
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Sizoo
Miss Gandy

b7c [redacted]

File 6-

(CIVIL RIGHTS)

REP. ADAM C. POWELL, JR., (D-N.Y.) DEMANDED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWNELL INVESTIGATE AN AGREEMENT LAST YEAR UNDER WHICH THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT INVESTIGATE FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT.

POWELL TOLD THE HOUSE HE WAS "SHOCKED" TO LEARN OF THE AGREEMENT THROUGH A DISCLOSURE IN THE NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM AND SUN.

REP. KENNETH B. KEATING (R-N.Y.) ASKED POWELL TO TURN OVER ANY INFORMATION HE HAS ON THE CASE. KEATING HEADS A HOUSE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE WHICH IS INVESTIGATING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

2/18--GD1249P

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98 MAR 3 1953

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7 MAR 27 1953

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

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Nichols
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Clegg
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Tracy
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Trotter
Winterrowd
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Holloman
Miss Gandy

FAIR ENOUGH:

Rep. Powell and Haiti

BY WESTBROOK PEGLER

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Feb. 2.—Adam Powell, the Harlem Negro congressman, an ardent Roosevelt "Democrat," recently represented our government in ceremonies celebrating the 150th anniversary of the "independence" of Haiti. Haiti is a nation of about three million, mostly Negroes of straight African descent. Most of the others are hybrids of various hues. The language is a French patois larded with African phrases. Powell's wife is a nightclub pianist known as Hazel Scott. The weekly Sun of Port-au-Prince said she was a native of Trinidad and reported that, after attending the palace ball for his excellency, President Lt. Gen. Paul Magloire, she had to hurry to Miami to keep a professional engagement. For this reason, she had to postpone until next April her charity show for a fund named in honor of Mme. President Magloire.

Pegler

Marian Anderson, the noted Negro singer, did give a show during the festivities. I was told by a member of the American set that she was paid $3,000, a reasonable fee for an artist of her class and renown, but Andre Roosevelt, a member of the Oyster bay clan, who strongly resembles old Theodore, made further inquiries and heard it both ways. He heard that she did and didn't. Under the rules and discipline of the unions which Miss Anderson and Powell's wife of necessity must join under the American "democracy," both would expose themselves to heavy fines and other punishment by giving of their talent free without formal permission. Mr. Roosevelt keeps an inn on a mountain 1,500 feet above the Bay of Port-Au-Prince. He is a pillar of society, civilization and inter-American understanding. His place is called Ibo Lele, a voodoo term signifying a god of the jungle. He has a swimming pool dangling on a cliff, and he greets each guest on arrival with a rum punch containing the best elements of pentathol, nepenthe and dolce far nients.

The democracy of the American Democratic party is a never-ending source of more and more majestic contempt.

After lending his official presence, presumably at the expense of the American taxpayers, Powell sailed for New York exhaling assurances of his determination to improve Haiti's condition in the sugar market and to obtain larger grants of powdered milk and American surplus butter for the Haitian people, who are not well fed. But, even as his noble sentiments were printed in the Sun of Port-Au-Prince, the same paper published news of a political incident which would have raised howls of fascism, McCarthyism and Kluxery from Powell and all his political kin had anything remotely like it happened in the United States.

Two members of the Haitian chamber of deputies were in jail and one senator was on the lam. The government had grabbed 18 other prisoners, including five printers, who had kicked out hostile political dodgers on a job press.

The Haitian government has my permission to run its own affairs according to its own laws.

G.I.R.-10 b7c

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191 FEB 17 1954

Times-Herald 9
Wash. Post
Wash. News
Wash. Star
N.Y. Herald Tribune
N.Y. Mirror

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Date: FEB 3 1954

FEB 23 1954

constitution and wise judgment. I offer no gratuitous and snobbish judgment on its conduct in this emergency. That would come with bad grace from a citizen of the nation which suffers equal persecutions from the CIO and the AFL under charter from the Washington government. It is none of my business how Haiti meets emergencies of this kind and I would like to do the same to Felix Frankfurter, Henry Wallace and La Boca Grande.

So I report excerpts from the Haiti Sun not in reproach to the government but as a commentary on the integrity and sincerity of Powell and of the New York Times which, about the same time, was effluviating about the noble significance of the sesquicentennial and thrusting a needle into the sensitive ribs of Rafael Trujillo, the gizmo of the neighboring Dominican republic, with an intimation that he was a Fascist and not, like Magloire, a "Democrat."

The verbiage of these official communiques is rich in the vitamins of official casuistry.

The first statement from the Secretary of State of Interior said that "even while the entire populace prepared to pay homage to the fathers of our homeland, persons blinded by ambition and passion had plotted to create an atmosphere of insecurity by circulating alarming rumors intended to set citizens against one another." To this end they distributed tracts "published in contempt of law, each one more calumnious than the one before," disclosing a foolish belief that the democratic demeanor of the government was a sign of weakness.

But—"according to the penal code public action has been launched. A search has revealed firearms, sharp weapons, tracts and seditious proclamations." Accordingly, like the Nurnberg tribunal of Justice Robert Jackson of the U. S. Supreme court and the synthetic Brig. Gen. Telford Taylor, the legislature at its imminent session would "launch constitutional proceedings to permit competent authority to proceed against the authors of the crimes—men who are protected by immunity—in accordance with the fundamental charter."

Another communique said that in spite of the constitutional provisions "decreed" by the government, other members of the legislature had continued to incite workers and students to strike and to cause disaffection among the armed forces. Accordingly the government had ordered the judge d'instruction to take action against them.

In spontaneous indignation against such perfidy, all industry in Port-Au-Prince closed down next morning and the businessmen and employes converged on the palace lawn. Girls who sort coffee beans with their fingers sang a song of homage to Magloire, and the president came down from his balcony and told the multitude that "I am obliged once more to wear by iron pants to suppress some vagabonds."

Next day again, "the palace lawn was a seething mass of government employes, political and social groups reaffirming loyalty to President Magloire."

The Sun reported that "from the palace steps beside a huge oil painting of himself in general's uniform," the president "thanked the manifesters for their collaboration."

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Builder's Loan Got Powell a Sport Car

NEW YORK, Sept. 27 (U.P.) — The builder of a Government-backed interracial apartment project told Senate probers today he loaned Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N. Y.) $3000 in 1952 to buy a sports car.

David Kent of New York, said the money has not been repaid, although he expects to get it back "probably very soon."

Kent also told the Senate Banking and Currency Committee that two of Powell's congressional secretaries — already on the Federal payroll — draw $8800 a year as managers of the cooperative apartment project.

Kent identified the two as Acy Lennon and William J. Hampton, and said they used Powell's Manhattan offices to push sales in the 30-unit cooperative.

About 80 percent of the families in the project — the Dorie Miller housing project in Queens — are Negroes. Powell, 45, became the first Negro ever sent to Congress from New York when he was elected a decade ago. He is seeking re-election to a sixth terms.

Photographs introduced at the hearing show Powell posing with his sports car near the site of the nonprofit housing project, which overlooks LaGuardia Airport.

Powell, in a statement, admitted the loan from Kent but said it "is a personal matter and absolutely has nothing to do with anything in connection with FHA."

The Congressman said FHA records would show that he never interceded for Kent or any other builder or contractor.

A New York bank, Powell went on, selected Lennon and Hampton to manage the housing project and he did not even know of it until their contracts were signed.

Powell continued:

"David Kent built the first interracial cooperative housing project in New York, and I applaud him for it and helped to secure tenants for it. Those people who assisted me in procuring tenants included Rep. (Jacob) Javits (R-Lib-N.Y.) and then Borough President Robert Wagner (now Mayor)."

William Simon, chief counsel of the committee, told reporters there were no "windfall" profits in the Dorie Miller project, since it was a nonprofit cooperative.

FHA Swept 'Clean,' Eisenhower Says

CHICAGO, Sept. 27 (U.P.). President Eisenhower said today the Federal Housing Administration has been swept clean of corruption and the American people can again have faith in it.

Mr. Eisenhower indicated he was sorry the FHA's reputation has been damaged by "a few faithless men."

The President's expression of confidence was believed to be his first direct comment on the agency since it came under investigation of the Senate Banking Committee. The President's remarks were included in a message to the forty first annual convention of the Mortgage Bankers Association of America.

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Wash. Star
N. Y. Herald Tribune
N. Y. Mirror

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FHA Probe

Auto Loan Admitted By Powell

NEW YORK, Sept. 28 (INS.) Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (D.-N. Y.), today admitted receiving a loan of $3000 from the builder of an interracial apartment housing development in Queens, but asserted it had "nothing to do" with the Federal Administration.

David Kent of Brooklyn, a sponsor of the 306-unit cooperative apartment project, told a Senate Banking Committee which is investigating FHA scandals that he made the "friendly loan" to Powell so Powell could buy a sports car.

Kent also testified that Powell's secretaries, Acy Lennon and William J. Hampton, had been made rental managers of the development, positions which bring them about $8000 a year each in addition to their Federal salaries.

TOP CLIPPING
DATED 9-29-54
FROM Wash News
MARKED FILE AND INITIALED

Wash. Post and Times Herald 9
Wash. News
Wash. Star
N. Y. Herald Tribune
N. Y. Mirror

Date: 9/29/54

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CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL JR.
MISCELLANEOUS - INFO CONCERNING

On 7/14/54, we furnished info to DAG Rogers, AAG Olney and FHA developed during the course of another investigation. In that investigation [redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted] b7C

There was no indication of a violation of a Federal statute within our jurisdiction. On 9/27/54 a request dated 9/23/54, was received from Olney to send copies of our reports to USA, NY, who is considering.

[redacted] b7C

TOP CLIPPING
DATED 9-29-54
FROM Wash. News.
MARKED FILE AND INITIALED

Probers Find Powell Got $3,000 Loan From FHA Builder

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—The Senate Banking Committee has turned up evidence that Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Democrat, of New York, got a $3,000 loan two years ago from the builder of a Government-backed housing project.

Builder David Kent of Brooklyn told the committee at a hearing yesterday that the money has not been repaid, but he expects Mr. Powell to do so "probably very soon." He said Mr. Powell used the money to buy a fancy sports car.

Mr. Kent also revealed that two secretaries on Mr. Powell's congressional staff have received $8,800 a year as managers of the development in addition to their Federal pay. He identified them as Acy Lennon and William J. Hampton and said they used Mr. Powell's Manhattan offices to push sales in the project.

Inter-Racial Project.

Mr. Kent's testimony concerned the 300-unit inter-racial Dorie Miller apartment project in Corona, Queens. A non-profit, co-operative development, it was financed with mortgages guaranteed by the Federal Housing Administration.

Following Mr. Kent's testimony Mr. Powell issued a statement confirming that he had received the loan. However, he added, it "is a personal matter and absolutely has nothing to do with anything in connection with FHA."

He said FHA records would show that he never interceded for Mr. Kent or any other builder or contractor.

As for his two secretaries receiving money from the project, Mr. Powell said they were selected as managers by a New York bank and he knew nothing about it until their contracts were signed.

Mr. Powell said the congressional salaries received by Mr. Lennon and Mr. Hampton were $6,000 and $5,000, respectively.

The Congressman continued: Mr. Powell, who also is pastor of Harlem's big Abyssinian Baptist Church, confirmed Mr. Kent's story about the loan going to pay for an expensive English sports car.

Mr. Kent had told the committee Mr. Powell drove out to see him at the Corona apartment project in an imported Jaguar sports car. When he complimented the Congressman on it, Mr. Kent said, Mr. Powell replied that he would like to get a still better model, but lacked the money.

With that, Mr. Kent offered to lend Mr. Powell the $3,000 that he said he needed to get the other sports car.

Powell's Check Shown.

Mr. Kent showed the committee a check which Mr. Powell had given him to cover interest on the loan. It was dated last April 3 and Mr. Kent said he had not cashed it because he did not charge interest on a friendly loan.

The committee counsel, William Simon, questioned Mr. Kent closely on whether he had actually received the check April 3 or whether it was received at a later date and postdated. He said that even one week later "makes all the difference," since it was April 10 that President Eisenhower announced scandals in the FHA.

Mr. Kent denied the interest payment had anything to do with the President's announcement that FHA scandals would be investigated.

Wash. Post and Times Herald ____
Wash. News ____
~~Wash. Star~~ P A-35
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N. Y. Mirror ____
Night Final ____
Date: 9/28/54

CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

On 7/14/54, we furnished information to DAG Rogers, AAG Olney, and FHA developed during the course of another investigation. In that investigation [redacted] There was no indication of a violation of a Federal statute within our jurisdiction. On 9/27/54, a request dated 9/23/54 was received from Olney to send copies of our reports to USA, NY, who is considering. [redacted]

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'A 'PERSONAL' MATTER

AT a New York hearing, the Senate committee investigating the Federal Housing Administration scandals turned up testimony that Congressman Adam Clayton Powell got a $3000 "loan" from an FHA builder to buy a fancy sports car.

The builder testified Mr. Powell had not repaid any part of the loan, and he hadn't asked for any repayment.

The builder, David Kent, also testified that two of Mr. Powell's congressional secretaries were joint rental managers of the FHA project Mr. Kent erected and that this fortunate arrangement yielded each of them about $8800 a year, in addition to their Federal salaries.

Mr. Powell claims he didn't know of the unique double-duty of his secretaries until after the arrangement was made and said the $3000 loan for his sports car was a "personal matter."

Mr. Powell, a five-term member of the House and a minister of the gospel, sees no impropriety ~~in any of~~ this.

62-99053
Re: Adam Clayton Powell

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FINAL
Date: 9/29/54

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Sizoo
Mr. Winterrowd
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Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

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(CIVIL RIGHTS)

REP. ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., (D-N.Y.) SAID TODAY HE PLANS TO "USE EVERY PARLIAMENTARY DEVICE" TO BRING CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION BEFORE THE HOUSE THIS SESSION.

POWELL, ONE OF THREE NEGRO CONGRESSMEN, SAID IN A SPEECH PREPARED FOR HOUSE DELIVERY AT NOON TOMORROW, THAT CONGRESS SO FAR HAS BEEN AN "ANACHRONISM" AS FAR AS CIVIL RIGHTS ARE CONCERNED.

POWELL SAID "THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS DONE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN THIS SPHERE."

HE SAID PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AND THE COURTS HAVE "PASSED US BY SO COMPLETELY AND THEY ARE SO FAR AHEAD THAT THE PEOPLES OF OUR NATION DO NOT EVEN LOOK TO THE U.S. CONGRESS ANY LONGER FOR ANY DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP IN THE FIELD OF MAKING DEMOCRACY REAL."

POWELL CITED THE RECENT SUPREME COURT RULING BARRING SEGREGATION IN SCHOOLS, PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S MOVES TO BAR SEGREGATION IN THE ARMED SERVICES AND THE ELIMINATION OF SEGREGATION IN VETERANS HOSPITALS.

"THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, THIS CONGRESS, MUST IMMEDIATELY CHANGE ITS CHILDISH, IMMATURE, COMPROMISING, 19TH CENTURY ATTITUDE AND NOT JUST BECOME PART OF THE 20TH CENTURY WORLD BUT A LEADER," POWELL SAID.

POWELL ASKED FOR BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT FOR BILLS TO OUTLAW SEGREGATION IN INTERSTATE TRAVEL, PASSAGE OF REP. EMANUEL CELLER'S "OMNIBUS CIVIL RIGHTS BILL," AND A BILL TO ELIMINATE "CERTAIN PRACTICES" OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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